

# THE DAILY TEXAN

Thursday, February 11, 2010

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TOMORROW'S WEATHER

High  
54  
Low  
37

## 'That is what I'd truly like to be'



Mary Kang | Daily Texan Staff

Hotdogger Alison Kwong, a UT public relations graduate, waves at pedestrians as she drives the Oscar Mayer Wienermobile Wednesday afternoon. This mobile is one of only seven Wienermobiles traveling throughout the country.

## Alumna takes Wienermobile on year-long, nationwide tour

By Priscilla Totiyapungprasert  
Daily Texan Staff

Forgoing a traditional post-graduation office job, UT graduate Alison Kwong traded in her black Honda Civic for a 27-foot-long hot dog.

As a spokeswoman for Oscar Mayer, a brand of Kraft Foods, Inc., Kwong started her tour across America in

the brightly colored Wienermobile after graduating with a public relations degree from UT last May.

Kwong has traveled to 22 states since June, planning publicity events with Laura Moller, her partner, and will be in Austin through next week recruiting potential job applicants.

"I never got to study abroad or travel much before I got this job," Kwong said. "Then, all of a sudden, I got to sightsee all over the country, meet a variety of people and get paid well while doing it all."

After working in event marketing for Radio Disney and at music agency Fat Caddy Plus in college, Kwong decided to

try something different when she applied to be a "hotdogger" — the official title listed on her business card.

Kraft has recruited college graduates since 1936, awarding 12 applicants one-year contracts to drive one of six Wienermobiles each year.

JOB continues on page 2

## UT instates black studies department

University is first in state to offer degrees focused on African-American studies

By Chris Thomas  
Daily Texan Staff

The University has created a new department to address the increased interest in African and African-American studies, becoming the first of its kind in the state.

Edmund T. Gordon, director of the Department of Anthropology, said the department will allow researchers and students to study the experiences of African-Americans, native Africans and people of African descent. The department, approved by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board in November, will offer classes in the fall.

The department will offer bachelor's degrees this fall. It is applying for approval from the Coordinating Board to begin offering master's degrees and doctoral degrees in the future.

"This is a big deal," said Gordon, who will chair the department. "It's the consummation of a long process for African-Americans and those who study the experiences of people in Africa and the African Diaspora to be recognized. The creation of this department is a strong indication of the University's recognition and vali-

dation of our field."

Gordon said he believes the department will enrich the experience of black students on campus while increasing the demographic and intellectual diversity of the University. Ultimately, black attendance at UT will increase, he said.

"In the past, the University has not been known for its friendliness towards blacks," Gordon said. "Times are changing. This department is a sign of that change."

UT President William Powers, Jr. said in a statement that this is a landmark event for the University.

"Not only will the new department and institute offer world-class educational and research opportunities, they also demonstrate the University's ongoing commitment to diversity and to pursuing understudied areas of scholarship," Powers said.

The University currently has a Center for African and African-American Studies located in the College of Liberal Arts. The center was created in 1973 and has been the only place at UT where students can pursue a major in African-American or African studies. Because centers are not allowed to hire their own faculty, the Center for African and African-American Studies hired members from different departments, causing

STUDIES continues on page 2

## University to introduce application in Spanish

By Michael Moran  
Daily Texan Staff

The University is in the process of making the admissions process more user-friendly for the influx of Hispanic students and their parents.

Some universities across the U.S., including two in the UT System, offer information on their Web sites in Spanish. UT officials have said that the University is in the process of approving a Spanish translation on its Web site.

The Office of Admissions plans to provide translations for admission and housing applications, as well as financial aid information. The translated information will allow parents who only speak Spanish to be more involved in their child's admissions process.

Hispanic students constitute a steadily increasing percentage of UT's undergraduate population. A decade ago, about 14 percent of undergraduates were Hispanic. Last year, that number was up to 19 percent, according to data from the Office of Information Manage-

ment and Analysis.

Laura Lavergne, UT admissions spokeswoman, said the office decided to translate the information more than a year ago.

"Some of the pages have been translated, and those are in review with admissions staff who are able to read and speak Spanish," Lavergne said. "We, at some point, decided that the most important thing was to get the information online translated."

She said she doesn't know when the new pages will go online, and no deadline for the translation process has been set.

A few universities in the Northeast, including Wesleyan University in Connecticut and Smith College in Massachusetts, have information about financial aid and student life translated into Spanish on their Web sites.

Some UT System universities offer admissions information in Spanish. The admissions office for UT-Brownsville, where a

WEB continues on page 5

## Murders affect value of real estate

By Bobby Longoria  
Daily Texan Staff

The places where people have died violently tend to attract the occasional ghost hunter but also sometimes also draw those searching for cheaper rent.

Since 2005, there have been three notorious murders involving UT students in their West Campus homes. In all three cases, the crime scenes were cleaned up, new paint applied and new tenants moved in. At least one was not aware he is living in a former crime scene.

According to Texas Property Code, property owners have no responsibility to disclose information about the property as it relates to deaths by natural causes, suicides, accidents or murder to potential buyers or tenants. They also have no responsibility to release information related to illnesses of previous tenants, for example, someone who suffered from HIV or AIDS. Tax specialist Mary Thomas said that when assessing the value of a property, the neighborhood crime rate, construction around the

area or a structural inadequacy is taken into account.

UT graduates John Goosey and Stacy Barnett were murdered at Barnett's condominium at Preservation Square in West Campus on July 21, 2009. James Richard "Ricky" Thompson was arrested three days after the killings and has been charged with double capital murder. Police investigations linked Thompson to the crime after reviewing telephone records. Police reports indicated that Thompson owed Goosey between \$7,000 to \$8,500 through a drug deal. His hearing is set for Feb. 18.

Karl Hendler, the condominium's owner, said the incident left him shocked and distraught. After the murder, some prospective tenants canceled pending leases, while others expressed fear that a serial killer could be on the loose.

"Be aware that things like this cannot be foreseen, it could happen to anybody, anywhere, anytime," Hendler said. "The

MURDER continues on page 5



Shannon Kintner | Daily Texan Staff

In 2009, a double homicide occurred inside this West Campus apartment forcing the owner to remodel the unit and reduce rent for prospective tenants.



Mary Kang | Daily Texan Staff

Mathematics freshman Jesus Hernandez and undeclared freshman Grisel Perez close their eyes to imagine pessimistic and optimistic situations during "Learning Optimism" held at the Recreational Sports Center Wednesday afternoon.

## Workshop stresses optimism as pivotal trait for success

By Gabrielle Cloudy  
Daily Texan Staff

Through icebreakers and communication exercises, Brittany Bouffard and Blake Davis, social work graduate students and Counseling and Mental Health Services representatives, discussed how to attain optimism on UT campus Wednesday.

"[Optimism] is evident in academics, performance and mood," Davis said. "Even physical health is affected by this. Pessimistic college students have twice as many infections and health concerns [comparatively]."

The UT Leadership and Ethics Institute stressed to students the need for optimism to achieve suc-

cess in academics, work and overall life, in its second workshop of the series.

The "Learning Optimism" session was one of seven workshops held bi-monthly to provide students and organizations with leadership skills. The institute is a leadership initiative created to cultivate leaders for today's workforce.

"Leadership is important and needed as you graduate," said Cecilia Lopez, government senior and LEI's communication director. "This programming was created to give these future leaders tools."

LEI was formerly separated into two different organizations, the UT Leadership Board and Leadership

Education and Progress, but the two were combined in the fall 2008. The workshop series was created in fall 2009 to attract a variety of students, especially those who are not involved in any organizations. The workshops are open to all students without any reservation or application.

Students or organizations that attend the workshops on Wednesdays, can also receive certification as a leader. Organizations must send at least one representative to the workshops to gain certification and provide proof that they relayed to their members the leadership skills learned.

Economics junior Henry Dugie and economics sophomore Jere-

my Gatson attended Wednesday's workshop representing the Liberal Arts Council.

"We're trying to get a mass number of us to come and be recognized," Gatson said. "The certification would also be something nice to have under our belt."

Undeclared freshman Grisel Piriez, who attended the first workshop on Jan. 27, said she heard about the workshop series from LEI, who directed her there after she was unable to participate in the freshman program Leadership Education and Progress.

"They told me I could still do

OPTIMISM continues on page 2



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TODAY'S WEATHER

High  
38



Low  
35

Claire, why is "Wiener" in RIM?



Mary Kang | Daily Texan Staff

Mark Meaney, a worker at Chevron, blows an Oscar Mayer Wiener whistle after a surprise visit from Wienermobile driver Alison Kwong Wednesday afternoon.

JOB: ‘I’m representing Oscar Mayer 24/7’

From page 1

Hotdoggers work in pairs, switching partners in the middle of the year.

Kwong’s parents were slightly apprehensive when their daughter announced her new job.

“The car is so big, and she’s so small,” said her mother, Connie Kwong, commenting on her daughter’s petite stature. “I was worried about her driving all the time and living on the road.”

Connie said she originally wanted her daughter to take a more stable route in the accounting or medical field, but she eventually accepted her daughter’s eccentric career choice.

Earlier this year, Alison Kwong paid a surprise visit to her hometown of Arlington,

where she was a sensation with the neighborhood children. She took her parents for a ride in the Wienermobile, as well.

On the road, Kwong has participated in a wide range of events: a Fourth of July parade in Minnesota, two 49ers football games in California and several hot rod shows where she got to “talk specs” with auto enthusiasts. One of her job requirements is to know the details of the Wienermobile inside and out.

While traveling, Kwong also met Dana White, president of Ultimate Fighting Championship, at a restaurant. White offered her seven free tickets to watch a UFC match, which Kwong — a self-proclaimed UFC enthusiast — gladly accepted.

Popular questions Kwong and Moller receive at promotional events include whether they sleep in the Wienermobile — they don’t — and whether it can fly, a question often asked by children.

Moller said she and Kwong enjoy seeing grandparents become just as excited as their grandchildren about getting free wiener whistles.

Kwong said that a hotdogger is constantly on the job, even on vacation days. She said people often forget that the Wienermobile is also her personal vehicle for running errands and going to the movie theatre.

“I’ll be at the gas station, and people will come up expecting stuff from me,” Kwong said. “It doesn’t really bother me, but I

do have to be constantly happy and outgoing because I’m representing Oscar Mayer 24/7.”

Kwong’s final days in the Wienermobile will be in July before a new college graduate takes over her position. She has already begun looking for a new job, preferably in an agency, she said.

Although she is looking forward to having a permanent residence, Kwong said she will miss living on the road and having a job that offered so much freedom.

“It really opened my eyes up to all these places I want to live in,” Kwong said. “Now I’m interested in possibly living in Portland, Seattle or Chicago. Before the tour, I didn’t even consider living outside Texas.”

STUDIES: Alumnus gives \$1 million

From page 1

conflicts regarding the curriculum, Gordon said.

As a department, those in charge of African and African Diaspora Studies can hire dedicated faculty, develop graduate programs and increase student enrollment, he said.

The department’s conception is the result of funding

mostly from Powers’ office. There was also a \$1 million donation made by UT alumnus Joe Jamail for the purpose of getting the department an endowed chair.

“It’s certainly exciting to be a part of something this important,” said Anna-Lisa Plant, the new department’s executive assistant. “It’s amazing to see it all become a reality.”

Notice of Re-Opening  
for the Position of  
Daily Texan Editor

Applications may be picked up from the  
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Qualifications:

- (1) be a registered UT-Austin student during the semester in which application is made;  
(2) have completed at least 30 hours at UT-Austin with a minimum grade point average of 2.25;  
(3) have worked, or will have worked when their term begins, at least one semester as a permanent staff member of The Daily Texan in news, sports or the copy desk;  
(4) have completed at least one other semester as an issue staff member of The Daily Texan in an area other than the one covered above;  
(5) have completed or be enrolled in a media law course before taking office; and  
(6) have obtained signatures from at least five editorial staff members of the Texan staff supporting the candidate for editor.  
(7) pass a libel test administered by the Editorial Adviser to ensure that he or she is fully capable of maintaining libel-free content.  
(8) be upper-division by the time they begin their term.

Potential Candidates may request waiver(s) of eligibility requirements specified in the TSM Handbook section 2.17(a). Waivers are subject to a vote of two-thirds approval by TSM Board Members.

Deadline for applications and all supporting materials:  
**Noon, Thursday, February 11, 2010**

Applicants will be certified by the  
TSM Board of Operating Trustees on  
**Friday, February 12, 2010 at 2:00 p.m.**  
HSM 3.302

The Daily Texan



The Daily Texan

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edited and designed with pride  
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	Tuesday.....Thursday, 12 p.m.	Friday.....Tuesday, 12 p.m.
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NEWS BRIEFLY

City expands utility program  
as need for aid grows quickly

The city of Austin utility discount program is now automatically enrolling any utility customer who is already receiving benefits through Medicaid or Travis County Energy Assistance Program.

Austin Energy reports that an average customer can receive utility-bill discounts of up to \$45 per month under the program.

“If a student or family member is already receiving benefits from Medicaid, Medicare, Supplemental Security Income or certain other assistance programs, they are now automatically eligible for the City of Austin utility discount program,” said Austin Energy Spokesman Carlos Cordova.

The city is initiating this program in response to an increase in demand for aid, Cordova said.

The program doubled its enrollment last year, and there was an 82-percent increase in customers from 4,501 to 8,164 between 2008 and 2009. This increase in enrollment prompted the city to double the amount of money available each year for emergency utility bill financial assistance from \$150,000 to \$300,000.

The city offered a new six-month payment plan last summer because of the 68 days of 100-plus degree weather.

“The plan allowed customers to work toward paying their utility bills without having to worry about their electricity being turned off when they needed it most,” Cordova said. “If you are behind on your bills, just call us. The worst thing you can do is nothing.”

— Chris Thomas

OPTIMISM: Some  
join workshop  
for networking

From page 1

the workshop series and possibly be a mentor in the future,” Pirez said. “I’m really interested, so I can get certified, too.”

LEI advisor Kayla Ford, who plans on marketing the workshop more, is really excited about the series and feels that it has had a good start.

“It has been quite successful because it’s so new,” Ford said. “We had about 20 people at the first meeting, and the students stayed about an hour afterwards talking, networking and exchanging e-mails. It’s a great opportunity for making connections.”

The next workshop, which will focus on environmental leadership, will be Feb. 24 in the Recreational Sports Center.

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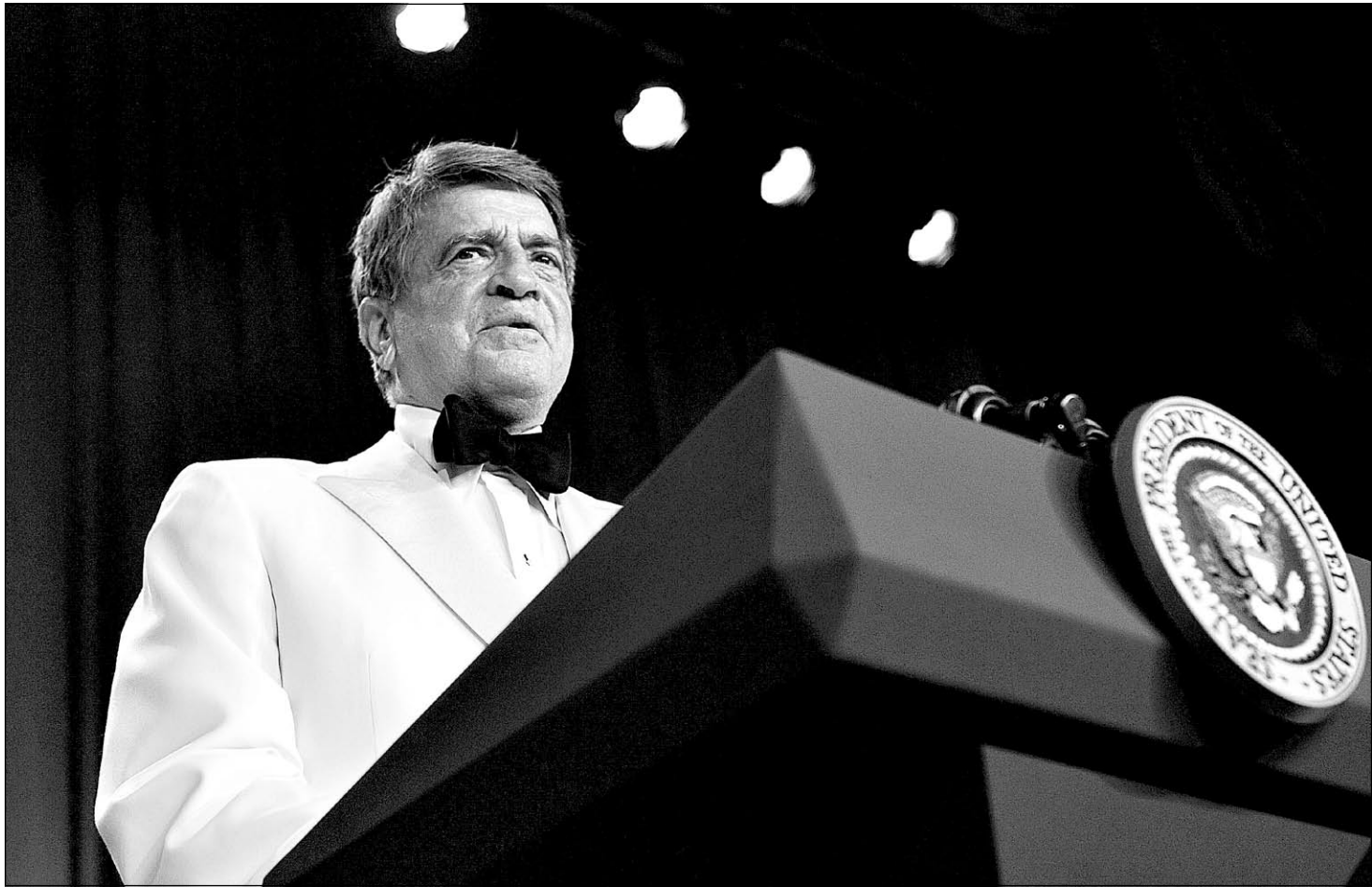
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Visitors Welcome

We encourage any community member who has any kind of temporary or permanent disability to contact Texas Student Media beforehand so that appropriate accommodations can be made. Anyone is welcome to attend.







Haraz N. Ghanbari | Associated Press

Charlie Wilson, a former congressman from Texas, speaks at the Annual Dinner of the White House Correspondents' Association in Washington on April 26, 2008. Wilson, 76, died from cardiopulmonary arrest in Lufkin on Wednesday.

## Famed politician leaves legacy

By Jamie Stengle

The Associated Press

DALLAS — Charlie Wilson, the former congressman from Texas whose funding of Afghanistan's resistance to the Soviet Union was chronicled in the movie and book "Charlie Wilson's War," died Wednesday. He was 76.

Wilson died at Memorial Medical Center-Lufkin after he started having difficulty breathing while attending a meeting in the East Texas town where he lived, said hospital spokeswoman Yana Ogletree. Wilson was pronounced dead on arrival, and the preliminary cause of death was cardiopulmonary arrest, she said.

Wilson represented the 2nd District in East Texas in the U.S. House from 1973 to 1996 and was known in Washington as "Good Time Charlie" for his reputation as a hard-drinking womanizer. He once called former congresswoman Pat Schroeder "Baby-cakes," and tried to take a beauty queen with him on a government trip to Afghanistan.

Actor Tom Hanks played Wilson in the 2007 movie about Wilson's efforts to arm Afghan rebels during Afghanistan's war against the Soviet Union in the 1980s.

In 2007, Wilson had a heart transplant at a Houston hospital. Doctors had told Wilson that he would likely die without a transplant.

Wilson, a Democrat, was considered a progressive but also a defense hawk. He had acknowledged some responsibility for Afghanistan becoming a safe haven for al-Qaida after the Soviets retreated and the U.S. withdrew its support.

"That caused an enormous amount of real bitterness in Afghanistan and it was probably the catalyst for Taliban movement," Wilson said in a 2001.

The Soviets spent a decade battling the generously financed mujahedeen before pulling out of Afghanistan in 1989.

Mike Vickers, who as a CIA agent in 1984 played a key role in the clandestine effort to arm Afghan rebels, said Wilson played a part in the Soviet Union's 1991 collapse.

Vickers praised Wilson as a "great American patriot who played a pivotal role in a world-changing event — the defeat of the Red Army in Afghanistan, which led to the collapse of Communism and the Soviet Empire."

After leaving Congress, Wilson

lobbied for a number of years before returning to Texas.

"Charlie was perfect as a congressman, perfect as a state representative, perfect as a state senator. He was a perfect reflection of the people he represented," said Charles Schnabel Jr., who served as Wilson's chief of staff in Washington and worked

with Wilson when he served in the Texas Senate.

Schnabel said he had just been with Wilson a few weeks ago for the dedication of the Charlie Wilson chair in Pakistan Studies at UT.

Ogletree said Wilson is survived by his wife, Barbara, and a sister.

## Haitian survives weeks trapped in earthquake ruins

By Paisley Dodds

The Associated Press

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti — A rice vendor, who doctors say may have survived 27 days under the rubble after Haiti's devastating earthquake, was in stable condition and eating Wednesday.

Doctors were skeptical at first about the man's story — people can survive as long as nine weeks without food, but die quickly without water. The last confirmed survivor was a 16-year-old girl removed from rubble 15 days after the Jan. 12 quake.

They turned into believers, however, after he became lucid enough to tell his tale. He told health care workers that he was selling rice in a flea market when the quake destroyed the building, trapping him — apparently along with water or food.

"He's doing very well," said Dr. David Chong, who was treating the man at a University of Miami Medishare field hospital in Haiti's capital. "We've been giving him intravenous fluids and he's tolerating them well. We also gave him a Hershey bar. He was pretty happy about that."

The man — identified as

28-year-old Evans Monsigrace — had scrapes on his feet after being rescued. He told doctors he lay on his side mostly, trapped in a small void in the remains of the market.

"He's not going to be able to walk for a while, but he should have a full recovery," Chong said.

Doctors planned to feed Monsigrace rice on Wednesday and possibly other foods in the coming days.

"He wants to go home," Chong said.

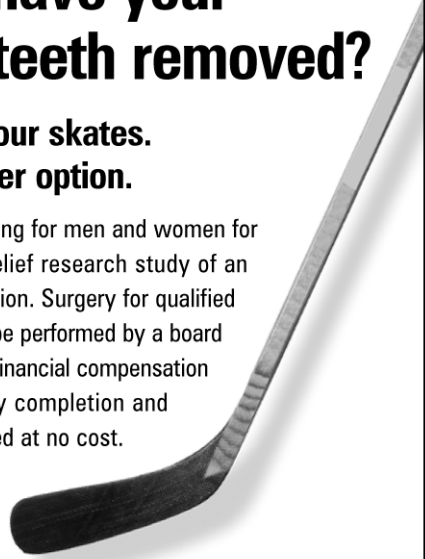
Another physician, Dr. Dushyantha Jayaweera, said when Monsigrace first became lucid, he claimed he had not had any water or food. The man, however, had normal kidney function with heart palpitations, suggesting he at least had drank something but not enough to avoid getting dehydrated, Jayaweera said.

The man's story began when two men him to a Salvation Army medical center in Port-au-Prince on Monday, saying he had been trapped since the earthquake. Dehydrated and malnourished with rail-thin legs, Monsigrace was later moved to the University of Miami hospital because of his critical condition.

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## Rousseau and the Modern Cult of Sincerity

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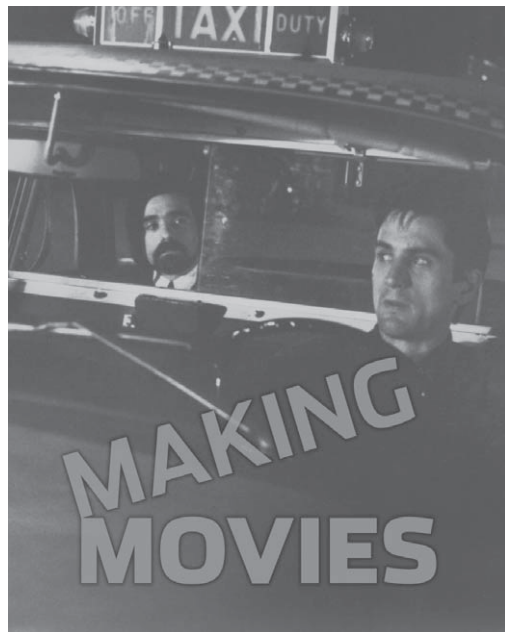
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Professor of Political Science,  
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A Lecture presented by  
The Thomas Jefferson Center for the Study of Core Texts and Ideas  
The University of Texas at Austin

## HARRY RANSOM CENTER THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN



THROUGH AUGUST 1

### Making Movies

Featuring items from the Ransom Center's extensive film collections, this exhibition reveals the collaborative nature of the filmmaking process and focuses on how the artists involved—from writers to directors, actors to cinematographers—transform the written word into moving image.

### jViva! Mexico's Independence

The year 2010 marks the 200th anniversary of Mexico's independence from Spain and the 100th anniversary of the Mexican Revolution. This exhibition showcases original materials from the Ransom Center's collections that illuminate these historic touchstones.

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HARRY RANSOM  
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THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN



VIEWPOINT

# Perry tries to pass the buck

On Wednesday, during a visit to Corpus Christi, Gov. Rick Perry called on the federal government to reimburse the state of Texas for costs associated with detaining illegal immigrants in state prisons. To make his point more symbolically, Perry announced that the state would be submitting monthly invoices to the federal government for the cost (roughly \$13.5 million each month, according to a press release from his campaign) of detaining these individuals.

Perry said of illegal immigration, “The federal government’s failure to secure our border has a domino effect across Texas and across the country that we will continue to battle because the safety of our citizens is a top priority.”

Nine thousand are currently imprisoned in Texas out of a population of an estimated 1,640,000 illegal immigrants living in the state. To single out 0.5 percent of a population as a safety concern, rather than addressing the bigger issue at hand — that Texas has one of the largest prison populations in the country — ought to raise some eyebrows.

But since we’re on the topic of symbolic monthly invoices, it should be noted that according to estimates released in late 2006 by Carole Keeton Strayhorn, the state comptroller at the time, illegal immigration helped bolster the Texas economy by \$17.7 billion. Taking into account the amount of money illegal immigrants contribute in taxes versus the amount they cost the state in services, the report revealed that Texas came away with a net profit of \$420 million.

Since the state is better off without them, perhaps these illegal immigrants should take a page out of Perry’s book and begin sending monthly invoices to the state in the amount of \$420 million a month. This way, their impact on our state will at least be muted economically.

But this isn’t the only group that ought to send Perry an invoice.

Public educators should send Perry a bill to cover their lack of resources in the classroom.

Perry recently stated he would not seek out federal stimulus funds that could contribute up to \$700 million toward education. Perry refused the funds, believing they would lead to a federal takeover of the Texas public education system. Many bipartisan groups around the state rallied for the funds, believing the money could help fuel a lagging public education system that rates 37th in the nation.

Despite the low ranking, Perry believes, “Texas is on the right path toward improved education.” This is a keen analysis as, based on the statistics, it seems we have nowhere to go but up.

Supporters point to the strings attached to the stimulus funds, but those strings didn’t prevent Perry from sticking it to the man by accepting roughly \$12 billion in stimulus money to balance the state’s budget.

Texas’ unemployed population should write an invoice to Perry for a sum of \$550 million.

That’s the amount Perry blocked in unemployment benefits that would have gone toward those struggling in the state.

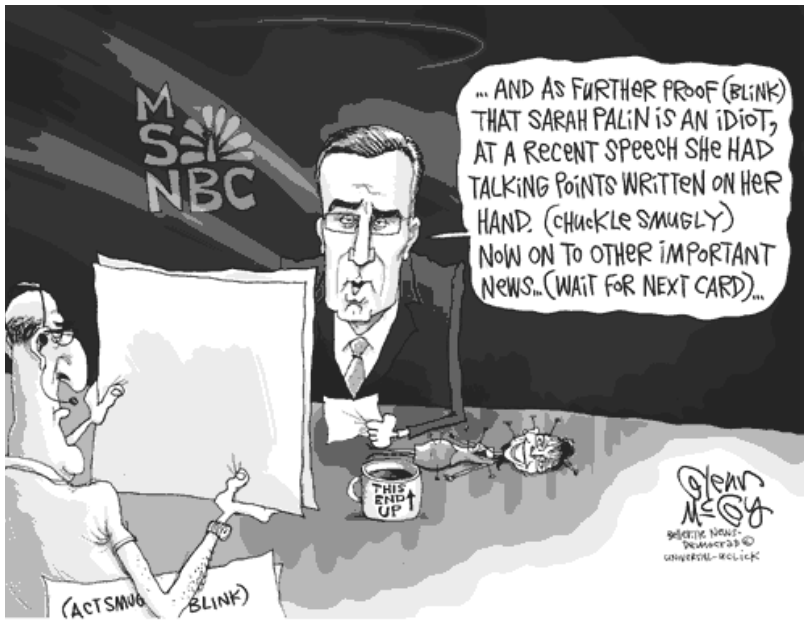
Nevada’s Republican governor, Jim Gibbons, accepted the funds after initial uneasiness, stating, “As our economic crisis deepens, Nevadans are suffering because of layoffs, business closings and other cutbacks. We have the responsibility to do everything we can to help our unemployed workers get through these difficult times, even if that means passing legislation that we would not necessarily approve during prosperous times.”

Although Perry decided to stay strong on his denial of money that would assist those in need, all is well now that Perry’s invoice policy is in place.

Looks like Rick better invest in a larger mailbox and a thicker checkbook.

— Dan Treadway for the editorial board

GALLERY



GALLERY



# Student Government is fighting the wrong battle



By Dave Player  
Daily Texan Columnist

Now is the time for all good Student Government representatives to come to the aid of their students.

Now, more than ever, students are feeling the need for a strong and, most importantly, vocal student government. Budget cuts are affecting nearly every segment of the University, manifested in the form of tuition increases, staff and faculty cuts and the impending closure of the Cactus Cafe.

Naysayers have criticized SG for being an ineffective representative body whose goals are personal rather than communal. In 1978, UT students even went as far as disbanding Student Government following a campus-wide referendum. It restructured in 1982. However, in times such as these, students desperately need SG to provide a strong collective voice in order to bring our concerns to the administration and state Legislature.

Yet, at Tuesday night’s weekly meeting they did just the opposite. For nearly two hours, various representatives debated the merits of proposed legislation “A.B. 15,” a referendum to create a “Speaker of the Assembly” position. The new referendum would be put before a popular student vote. If passed, it would usurp many powers currently held by the vice president — namely the authority to set the agenda for assembly meetings and make appointments to student committees — and give them to the new “speaker.”

The inherent flaw with such a piece of legislation is that it takes a position elected by the student body and replaces it with a new position elected by the 40 representatives of the Assembly. For a legislature designed to represent the student body and voice their concerns, further removing student influence from the assembly floor is troubling. Taking powers away from the vice president and giving them to an Assembly-elected position effectively disempowers students.

Supporters of the bill claim that it will empower the Assembly, which is more representative of student interests. If anything, the opposite is true.

The majority of assembly members represent smaller colleges within the University; taking a single representative and endowing them with the powers of the vice presidency gives disproportionate legislative clout to that representative’s school. Whereas the current vice president serves a constituency of 50,000 students, the new “speaker” would only be accountable to those 40 SG representatives.

On the issue of the referendum, Liber-

tions will be formed, votes will be cast, favors will be owed.

Perhaps that is why Lawler, along with SG representatives Carly Castetter and Matt Daley recently proposed a change to the SG bylaws, which would allow for secret ballots when mandated by the constitution.

The bill, AB 16, was referred to the Internal Affairs committee, but we can only infer that it was meant to coincide with the new “speaker” referendum, as it was introduced at the same time and by some of the same co-authors of AB 15. After years of Student Government preaching the need for transparency and accountability, proposing secret-ballot elections in any case is abhorrent.

Perhaps more important than the logistical details of the referendum is the nature of the debate itself. Supporters of the referendum argue it is the natural continuation of past SG reforms.

However, in the past, SG reforms were sparked by student outcry — the abolition of the ticket system and changes to the Election Supervisory Board were the result of students demanding change and SG reacting to that demand. AB 15 is a bill contrived by the assembly without any apparent demand from the student body.

Rather than focusing on pressing student issues, such as the budget crisis, the SG assembly spent Tuesday night debating parliamentary procedure.

al Arts representative and co-author John Lawler was quoted in The Daily Texan yesterday saying, “We felt it was unfair to not get the chance to vote on this, for it to get caught up in self-interested SG politics.” If SG representatives are truly interested in moving away from “self-interested SG politics,” then the proposed “speaker” position is a giant leap in the wrong direction.

A speaker elected by popular vote and then empowered to make committee appointments from the same pool of applicants that just voted for or against that speaker is a formula for cronyism. Fac-

When considering candidates, students should look for those student leaders who promise results, not continual rhetoric.

At worst, AB 15 is a poorly designed attempt at an un-needed reform that will further weaken the SG assembly and mute the collective student voice.

At best, it’s a massive waste of time.

But hey, there’s always next week. Meeting adjourned.

Player is a plan II junior.

# Student leaders call for transparency

While the 18 Council Presidents understand that in tough economic times, sacrifices must be made to maintain both the excellence of and accessibility to the University of Texas at Austin, we believe that student opinion should be sought by decision-making bodies at every available opportunity.

In light of the decision of the Texas Union Board to repurpose the Cactus Cafe and limit informal classes, the 18 council presidents feel that the student body was not sufficiently consulted in the discussion and decision-making process. No attempt was made to systematically garner any student opinion on the matter, outside of the student representatives on the committee, or to allow discussion on any alternative options.

More significantly, the Texas Union Board’s discussion lacked transparency. While we understand the necessity of closed-door meet-

ings, we cannot simply allow the decisions made behind those doors to speak for students without the proper vetting of the student opinion. We, just like the student representatives of the Texas Union Board, are elected to serve and represent the student body. Surveying the opinion of a student body 50,000 strong is no small feat, but a genuine effort should be made to do so, be it through student forums or via academic communities such as the College Councils.

We students have demanded accountability and responsibility from administrators on campus. For instance, the Tuition Policy Advisory Committee, which also collaborates and discusses matters behind closed doors, released a report and subsequent open-forums to receive feedback from the University community. The Union board has yet to make such efforts to exhibit some transparency with its governance, and

we students must also demand accountability and responsibility of the same caliber from the students who serve as our representatives and make decisions on our behalf on campus.

Following the decision-making precedents in the Texas Union, additional anxiety arises as the Texas Union prepares to open another building, the Student Activity Center, in the next year. With a new building, we have high hopes that the level of transparency and student-first mentality will increase. As the responsibility of the Texas Union Board grows, so does the need for accurate student representation.

Our intent in submitting this statement is not to advocate for the reversal of the decision made by the Texas Union Board but to rebuke the board for the lack of student consultation in this matter. A board that services UT students should, at minimum, reach out to more than selec-

tively appointed students to gauge student perception on Union affairs.

The 18 College Council Presidents desire to see more transparency in the discussion and decision-making process at every level of the administration, colleges and schools. Additionally, we are calling on the Texas Union Board to release meeting agendas, minutes and voting records of the Board to the UT community immediately.

In these tough economic times, the student voice is more critical than ever in these discussions, as every decision affects the quality of education that we receive at the University. The College Councils are willing to assist in any way to facilitate the gathering of student opinion in these matters as well. By pooling existing resources, we can best serve the student body of the University.

The 18 presidents of the College Councils

## SUBMIT A COLUMN

The Daily Texan Editorial Board welcomes guest columns. Columns must be between 500 and 700 words. Send columns to [editor@dailytexanonline.com](mailto:editor@dailytexanonline.com). The Texan reserves the right to edit all columns for clarity and liability if chosen for publication.

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## FIRING LINES

E-mail your Firing Lines to [firingline@dailytexanonline.com](mailto:firingline@dailytexanonline.com). Letters must be more than 100 and fewer than 300 words. The Texan reserves the right to edit all submissions for brevity, clarity and liability.

## LEGALESE

Opinions expressed in The Daily Texan are those of the editor or the writer. They are not necessarily those of the UT administration, the Board of Regents or the Texas Student Media Board of Operating Trustees.



## campus watch

### Speaker scam

Almetris Duren Residence Hall, 2624 Whitis

Scam: A UT student reported being approached by a subject wearing a polo shirt with a Best Buy logo. The subject claimed to be an employee of that chain store and said he needed to sell a high-end surround-sound speaker system at a discounted rate, as the store had over-ordered the product. The student made an offer of \$220 for the speaker system, and the transaction was completed. After purchasing the speaker system, the student conducted an on-line search of the product brand and quickly discovered he had been the victim of a scam. The subject was described as a white male in his mid 20's, thin build, 6' tall, with brown hair, green eyes and wearing a blue polo style

shirt. The subject was driving a brown Ford Explorer. Occurred on 02/09/10 at 6:44 PM.

### Unwanted company

Jesse H. Jones Communications Center, Building B, 2504 Whitis

Suspicious Activity: A UT student reported that an unknown subject, who appeared to have been intoxicated, approached her in a 3rd floor computer lab and asked if he could sit next to her. The subject then sat down and began to ask the student several personal questions that made the student feel uncomfortable. When the subject left, the student followed the subject out of the building but did not call the police on the advice of a friend. Occurred on 02/09/10 at 11:02 PM.

### Questions and answers

2500 Whitis

Public Intoxication: UT Police Officers responded to a report of a disturbance where they observed two males engaged in a verbal argument. One of the two subjects was found to have extreme difficulty standing and answering simple questions. When the non-UT subject was asked where he was and what time he believed it to be, the subject replied "Congress at 14th Street" and that it was "One or two in the morning." That subject was found to be under the influence of an alcoholic beverage to the point he was deemed to have been a danger to himself and others. Occurred on 02/09/10 at 10:07 PM.

### iPod agony

T.S. Painter Hall, 103 West 24th Street

Theft: An Apple iPod Touch was stolen after it was left on the floor of a 2nd floor classroom. The owner of the iPod used an online networking site for her class to ask classmates for any information regarding her iPod. Loss value: \$300.00. Occurred on 02/03/10 between 12:40 PM and 1:00 PM

### No trespassing

UFCU Disch-Falk Field, 1300 East MLK

Criminal Trespass: A non-UT subject was reported as pulling on the exterior doors to the stadium before climbing over an 8' fence to enter the stadium. The subject was taken into custody for criminal trespass. Occurred on 02/10/10 at 2:10 AM.

Compiled by UTPD Officer Darrell Halstead

## WEB: Admissions center offers Spanish information sessions

### From page 1

majority of students are Hispanic, offers recruitment and college-planning events in Spanish for parents.

UT-El Paso joined up with IBM a few years ago to offer a free translation service for prospective students and their parents. After users register for the service, they will have the ability to translate e-mails and Web pages.

When Perla Carrasco, a communications senior and president of the UT Hispanic Student Association, applied to the University four years ago, she wasn't aware of any information she could give to her Spanish-speaking parents.

"I feel like maybe UT could provide more information, especially in more languages," said Carrasco. "It would have helped [my

parents] with the process."

Admissions officers had parents like Carrasco's in mind when they began offering information sessions in Spanish at University admissions centers throughout the state in the past couple of years after an increased demand for the service.

Karime Niame, a UT-Austin admissions counselor at the Dallas admissions center, said the center conducts information sessions in Spanish every month.

Attendees of the most commonly attended sessions usually fill all 25 seats in the conference room.

"The service is definitely needed in the Dallas admissions office," Niame said. "When we started doing this last year, during the summer, it was welcomed by the parents."

## MURDER: Condo neglects to tell tenants of past

### From page 1

most important thing is to see a lot of innocent people are affected by these issues."

For months, the condominium where Goosey and Barnett died remained empty. Hendler says he spent close to \$7,000 remodeling the condo, replacing the carpet and hardwood floors and repainting all the walls. He installed an alarm system and spent thousands on a video surveillance system.

The current tenant moved in Sept. 1 and pays approximately \$750 in monthly rent, which Hendler reduced from the original asking price of \$1,100. Hendler says he does not plan to raise the price for several years.

The condominium's current tenant, who did not want to be named in order to protect his privacy, said he has no superstitions regarding past events in his home. He said that Hendler told him about the slayings before he agreed to move in. The biggest problem he has encountered are "ghost hunters" who are attracted by the condominium's grisly past.

On Aug. 18, 2005, one of the most infamous West Campus murders occurred at the Orange Tree Condominium complex, where Colton Pitonyak allegedly murdered and dismembered UT student Jennifer Cave. Pitonyak is currently serving a 55-year sentence for murder.

UT graduate Laura Hall was convicted in 2007 for tampering with evidence and aiding Pitonyak in his flight to Mexico. She was sentenced to five years in jail, but an appeals court ruled she was unfairly prosecuted. She was subsequently released on bond in February 2009. On Monday, Hall was ordered back to jail and a new sentencing hearing in her case will be held March 8.

The condominium's current resident, who also did not want to be named due to of privacy concerns, said the incident does not bother him. He said he was unaware of the event until this week and that even if he had never known, he wouldn't have cared.

"It was [the murderers'] issue and their fault, so I don't know why [the current owner] should have an ongoing obligation to say anything," he said. "Independent of there being any ghosts, it's still a little weird to learn of that."

The current owner of the Orange Tree condominium purchased the apartment in 2007, according to Travis County tax records.

Later in 2005, another West Campus murder occurred on Nov. 11 when UT student William "Trey" Ehrhardt was shot and killed by Jason Chacon at the Carrells Apartments. The murder was also drug-related, with police investigators concluding that Ehrhardt was robbed for marijuana and cash in his residence before being shot.

The current resident and owner of the apartment could not be reached for comment.

According to data collected by the FBI from 2005-2007 by the Web site Neighborhood Scout, West Campus ranks as the sixth-most crime-ridden neighborhood in the nation. Although the area has a high number of property crimes and thefts, Hendler believes this is not indicative of the neighborhood's livability.

"I don't think West Campus is inherently dangerous. It's so convenient because it saves you a lot of time," Hendler said. "You can't make generalizations, but that's how it goes."

# Constant Kate



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BASKETBALL COLUMN

Barnes' seat heating up with season slipping away



By Michael Sherfield  
Daily Texan Columnist

Rick Barnes paced the sideline of the Erwin Center, stepping onto the court and barking instructions to a rattled team. The timeouts Texas usually hoards dwindled as a 6-point lead turned into a double-digit deficit and No. 1 Kansas threatened to run the Longhorns out of their own building.

Barnes recognized this, perhaps more than any other person in the building. His usual hands-off style had given way to a hint of desperation. But shots still weren't falling.

It was the biggest game in perhaps the biggest season Texas basketball has ever had, and Barnes and his team couldn't buy a bucket.

A respectable second half couldn't overcome a 10-minute scoring drought, and the Longhorns lost for the fifth time in seven games.

For a team that started 17-0 and surged to the first No. 1 ranking in school history, this constitutes a crisis. More specifically, it's an identity crisis.

No one is really sure who this team is. We know it was supposed to be Damian James' and Dexter Pittman's team, but while James might be holding up his end of the bargain, Pittman is as close to invisible as 6 feet, 10 inches and 300 pounds could ever be.

The freshmen, who matched Texas' No. 1 ranking last month with a No. 1 of their own as a

BASKETBALL continues on page 8

TEXAS 74 | COLORADO 50

# Texas extends winning streak

By Dan Hurwitz  
Daily Texan Staff

The altitude looked to have affected Colorado more than Texas, who got off to a running start and blew out Colorado 74-50 Wednesday.

The Longhorns, who prepared for the Colorado altitude by running stairs with bags of sand on their shoulders, controlled the game from the opening tip. Texas came out firing on all cylinders, scoring 14 straight points and obtaining a lead that they owned the entire game.

Every Longhorn got in on the fun in Boulder as the team extended their winning streak to four games and completely embarrassed the Buffaloes. Texas has now won six of its last seven games in the daunting Big 12 schedule after starting conference play with two consecutive losses.

"Before this game, coach talked about starting the second half of conference better than we started the first half," said guard Brittainey Raven, who finished with 10 points. "We just came in and put our all into it."

The Longhorns came out attacking the basket, scoring their first 8 points courtesy of four different Longhorns who exploded right past the Colorado defenders. Their last points came from forward Kristen Nash, who made hers despite being fouled.

"We know it's going to take great focus here, and we were able to use our depth a little bit and got on a roll early," said coach Gail Goestenkers.

The easy baskets came from



Cliff Grassmick | Associated Press

Sophomore Ashley Gayle fights off Colorado defenders as she pulls down a rebound in Texas' game at Colorado on Wednesday for its fourth consecutive win.

forcing turnover after turnover. In the first five minutes, the Buffaloes, who had yet to score a point, had more turnovers than shots attempted.

"Since we have been on our win streak, our main goal has been defense, getting stops and making the other team turn the ball over," Raven, who had four steals, said. "And over the last few games, we have won and turned turnovers into points."

Texas' defensive pressure flustered the Buffaloes and forced 22 turnovers that led to 39 points for the Horns. The Buffaloes were having trouble

completing passes to each other as the Longhorns stepped in front of many and ended up with 15 steals.

Offensively, all ten players scored, including four in double figures. Ashleigh Fontenette finished with a team-high 13.

"She's become a great leader for us," Goestenkers said. "She has grown into the point guard position and is really doing a good job for us."

Fontenette did not miss from the field, making all six of her shots. She also had three steals on the defensive end.

Freshman Cokie Reed, who has lost ten pounds since Thanksgiving, added 12 points as she dominated the paint off the bench.

"Offensively, [Reed] is very skilled, and she is gaining more and more confidence as we go," Goestenkers said.

The Texas bench saw the most time on the court since Big 12 play began. Both Yvonne Anderson and Lauren Flores added a spark off the bench.

"The bench came in and did a good job," Raven said. "They made some plays and played really good defense."

## Texas sinks Houston

Texas did more than just beat Houston 80-62. It also helped raise money for the fight against breast cancer.

Last year, the Cougars' first Sprint for the Cure brought in nearly \$1,200, and the money was donated towards cancer research. The entire benefit increased awareness of cancer, and this year's program did the same.

In addition to raising money for cancer research, Texas also used Wednesday's meet to prepare for the Big 12 Championship and the NCAA Championship meet in March.

Adrienne Woods, who has her eyes set on the NCAA meet, came in first in the 50-yard freestyle, 50-yard backstroke and 75-yard backstroke.

Texas' 100-yard freestyle relay, which finished with a time of 44.06 seconds, and medley relay, which clocked in at 49.38, both won. The 150-yard relay also took home gold, with a time of 1:10.49.



Erik Reyna | Daily Texan Staff

A Texas swimmer races against Texas A&M in a meet last semester. Texas beat Houston in a dual meet on Wednesday that also helped raise money for cancer research.

Carlye Ellis, another NCAA hopeful, finished first in the 50-yard breaststroke with a time of 29.90 and also won the 75-yard breaststroke.

In the 75-yard butterfly, Caroline McElhany ended with a 40.93 and with a 2:55.28 in the 300-yard freestyle.

— Bri Thomas

GOING PRO  
Defensive Line

## Kindle, Houston invited to combine

Defensive line served as anchor for country's strongest rushing defense

By Chris Tavarez  
Daily Texan Staff

Throughout the whole season, Texas faltered in one aspect or another. Against Oklahoma, the offense couldn't get anything going. After the midway point of the season, the special teams unit was giving up great field position and couldn't muster the production it had earlier in the year. But the one aspect of its game that Texas could really lean on was its defense.

In its second year of tutelage under Will Muschamp, the defense morphed into one of the strongest units in the country. It topped nearly every statistical category, including sacks, interceptions and interceptions returned for touchdowns. While much of that success can be attributed

to Muschamp, ask him or any other member of the defense, and they'll tell you it all starts with the men up front. Unfortunately for Texas, it will be losing two starters in Sergio Kindle and Lamarr Houston, as well as Ben Alexander, to graduation.

### Sergio Kindle



Kindle was one of the defense's most disruptive and dominant players this year. Despite not putting up the numbers expected of him for most of the season, the coaches loved his ability to draw double teams, which freed up his counterparts on the defensive line. But when he got a sack, the quarterback, and everyone else watching the game certainly knew it — just ask Taylor Potts.

Under Muschamp's coaching, Kindle was able to high-

light one of his strongest attributes — his versatility. For most of his college career, Kindle was playing outside linebacker, but this year, Muschamp moved him to defensive end as a pass rusher. This move helped show off his athleticism and certainly helped boost his draft stock.

Kindle also saw his draft stock skyrocket in the national championship game. Against Alabama, he had one of the best games of his career, registering eight total tackles, four tackles for a loss and two-and-a-half sacks.

Mel Kiper, ESPN's NFL Draft expert, has Kindle No. 21 on his "Big Board" as an outside linebacker. Todd McShay, another ESPN Draft analyst, has Kindle going a little later in the draft but still in the first round as the 26th overall pick.

LINE continues on page 8

REC SPORTS

## Club team shines despite playing in varsity's shadow

By Andy Lutz  
Daily Texan Staff

Normally when one thinks of Texas weather, subfreezing temperatures and sunless skies don't come to mind. Likewise, a typical outfield is supposed to have more blades of grass than it has rocks and dirt patches. Yet these rough conditions were exactly what Mother Nature served up on the lone day of tryouts for the club baseball team on Jan. 31.

About a dozen aspiring student-athletes made the trek out to a ramshackle Grove Field in southeast Austin, with hopes of making the 25-player squad. Operated by student officers Daniel Rothenberg, Woody Apfel and Josh Granados, the team competes in the National Club Baseball Association in the North conference of the Gulf Coast Region.

One may wonder what kind of recognition and support the club team garners in comparison to the top-ranked NCAA team which calls UFCU Disch-Falk Field its athletic home — a baseball paradise to anyone who has ever made it out to Grove Field. Rothenberg, while acknowledging head coach Augie Garrido's national championship runner-up Longhorns, thinks his guys could give the varsity team a run for their money.

"We certainly don't stand out on campus quite like the NCAA team does, but they deserve all of the extra visibility and accolades that they get. That is one committed group of student-athletes," Rothenberg said. "As far as the fan support we get, we'll be lucky to get our family and friends to come out to the games."

Although the team lacks notoriety, the caliber of talent and skill is still high. According to Rothenberg, several players have transferred to Texas from Division 1 schools like San Diego and

the University of Dallas. Players in the past have even walked on to the varsity Texas team from their spot on the club squad.

Last year's team went 14-4 and finished the season ranked 19th in the nation. The Longhorns enter this season at No. 20.

When asked about his team's chances for the spring season, student coach Daniel Gibbs had an eager look in his eyes.

"A lot of these guys can really play, so it'll be interesting to see how things play out against the likes of TCU and Texas A&M," Gibbs said. "There's been quite a bit of tension already among the guys, but that's what you've got to expect from a bunch of young players coming out all fighting for the same spots on the team."

"What we want in our guys is for them to show a passion for the game and to come out here and show us that they care."

The players proved that at tryouts just by showing up to Grove Field.

For freshman Chris Patino, the conditions were merely another challenge, not a deterrent, facing his goal of making the team.

"I think tryouts went really well, and we were all able to tough out the cold weather and maintain our focus," Patino said. "It was the first time a lot of us have played in a long while, so once we shook off most of the rust, we all just enjoyed being out on the diamond again and had a good time."

Patino and many of the other players trying out for the team came in with varsity high school experience in the sport.

A couple players even had prior familiarity with the club team, as student Gary Schneider can attest. Schneider, a freshman from Dallas, had made the cut for the

BASEBALL continues on page 8

## SIDELINE

### NCAA Men's Top 25

No. 7 Duke 64  
North Carolina 54

Connecticut 67  
No. 3 Syracuse 72

No. 16 Ohio State 69  
Indiana 52

No. 18 Northern Illinois 57  
Drake 48

No. 20 Georgia Tech 62  
Miami 64

No. 18 New Mexico 76  
No. 25 UNLV 66

### NCAA Women's Top 25

No. 1 Connecticut 95  
DePaul 62

No. 4 Nebraska 67  
Kansas 60

Saint Joseph's 56  
No. 6 Xavier

No. 11 Texas A&M 54  
Texas Tech 57

No. 15 Baylor 60  
No. 12 Oklahoma 62 F/OT

No. 13 Georgetown 66  
Pittsburgh 63

Louisville 56  
No. 24 St. John's 91

### NBA

Miami 94  
Atlanta 76

Philadelphia 92  
Atlanta 76

Milwaukee 97  
New Jersey 77

Sacramento 103  
Detroit 97

Boston 85  
New Orleans 93

Orlando 107  
Chicago 87

Charlotte 93  
Minnesota 92

Portland 108  
Phoenix 101

LA Lakers 96  
Utah 81

LA Clippers 102  
Golden State 132

### NHL

Philadelphia 3  
New Jersey 2 F/OT

Nashville 2  
NY Rangers 1

San Jose 0  
Columbus 3

NY Islanders 1  
Pittsburgh 3

Washington 5  
Montreal 6 F/OT

Phoenix 3  
Minnesota 2

Atlanta 3  
Colorado 4 F/OT

Edmonton 2  
Anaheim 3

## SPORTS BRIEFLY

### Astros sign three minor leaguers from AAA affiliate for 2010

The Houston Astros have signed three right-handed pitchers to one-year contracts and hired retired pitcher Doug Brocail as an advisor.

Yorman Bazardo and Evan Englebrook got \$400,000 each, and Jeff Fulchino got a \$425,000 deal Wednesday. Bazardo split time between the Astros and their AAA affiliate, the Round Rock Express, last year. Englebrok, a 2004 draft pick by the Astros, also played for the Express last year.

The team said the 42-year-old Brocail's role during the season may include visits to the Astros' minor-league affiliates and independent evaluation of pitching prospects.

The Astros also announced that minor league infielder Jose Vallejo had surgery Wednesday on two fingers of his right hand. Vallejo tore tendons in his fingers while preparing a meal during the Christmas holidays. The team said Vallejo will be out for about six months.

— The Associated Press



# BASKETBALL: Team taking steps back as rest of country improves

**From page 7**

Even more ominously, this is the stage in the season when a young team should be coming together, not falling apart. Getting better, not unraveling at the seams.

It seems the Longhorns hit their peak while others were just finding their legs, and with their well documented troubles shooting free throws or generating offense without a dominant Pittman, the only road forward right now is sloping down into

the mire of mediocrity.

All of this makes for a very interesting time in Barnes' career. There is no doubting his impact on Texas basketball since his arrival more than a decade ago. Barnes has transformed the Longhorns into a perennial Big 12 power where a Final Four run is expected — at least this year. The only problem is that now, he has to deliver.

It's a situation that echoes one from not too long ago. After turning the Texas football program around, head coach Mack Brown took a while to get over the final hurdles in his path: Oklahoma and a national title. One championship later, Brown is an iconic figure in a school history littered with legends.

But the days of Coach February, where recruiting classes outshone records, aren't that far behind. Barnes, who has had the benefit of Darrell K Royal-Texas Memorial Stadium's hulking shadow to work under, hasn't faced that kind of pressure yet, but after another season of great expectations turned toward disappointment, it's coming.

There is, of course, a simple remedy: Win. Right now.

While this team doesn't look much like the one that ran through its first 17 games, the talent is still there. What the Longhorns need is an identity to match it.

It's no coincidence that the best half of basketball Barnes' squad has played in this losing stretch, the second half against Oklahoma State, came when Pittman played his fewest minutes.

Plagued by foul trouble and double teams again, Pittman watched from the sideline as a more nimble and assertive offense picked apart the Cowboys, with freshman Jordan Hamilton leading the way.

Another freshman, J'Covan Brown, finally sparked some semblance of an offense Monday night against Kansas, finishing with 28 points as Texas fought the Jayhawks to within 8 before succumbing.

Barnes needs to recognize the strengths of his team and play to them. Bring back the screens and motions that set Hamilton free against OSU. Put Brown, by far the best free-throw shooter on one of the worst shooting teams in the nation, on the floor more than the offensively challenged Dogus Balbay and Justin Mason.

And he better do it while the Longhorns still have a season to save, because No. 1 rankings in January don't matter much in March.

# BASEBALL: Despite lack of facilities, club draws talent

**From page 7**

team in the fall, but failed to pay his \$125 dues and had to sit out the majority of the semester.

"[I want to] get back in the swing of things and hopefully [help to] win the regional and state championships," Schneider said.

Student coach Garrett Worrell added that "the competition level has been phenomenal." That high level of play will certainly be tested in a tough league that also features the club teams from Baylor, Texas Tech, SMU and Rice.

Despite playing on the frozen tundra formerly known as Grove Field during tryouts, the majority of the team's home games will be played at Zaragoza Park off of Seventh Street. Although the city park is just about as ragtag as Grove Field, it is closer to campus and is somewhere the players can call home.

Admission to all games is free for any interested fans, and Rothenberg strongly encourages fellow Longhorns to come out and show their support. The club opens spring action this weekend in Huntsville with a three-game series against Sam Houston State.

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# LINE: Out-of-state athletes majority of D-line

**From page 7**

**Lamarr Houston**

Houston entered unfamiliar territory when he came into the football program. Despite what his last name may lead you to believe, he was one of just a few out-of-state players on the team. But one thing he had in common with the rest of his Lone-Star teammates was his ability to play football, and that made him



feel right at home.

Houston, like Kindle, was moved around on the defense. In the first part of his career, he played defensive end before he moved to tackle during his junior year. Over the course of his career, he compiled 133 total tackles and 13 sacks, more than half of which came this season.

Houston is currently listed as the seventh best defensive tackle available in the draft and is in the top-80 in overall rank for everyone eligible for the draft. Both Houston

and Kindle have been invited to this year's NFL Draft Combine.

**Ben Alexander**

Alexander, like Houston, was one of just seven athletes from out of state this season. At 6 feet, 305 pounds, Alexander clogged the middle for Texas with 49 tackles and 10 tackles for loss over his career. Alexander is not projected to be drafted.



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Y E A R B O O K



# RACE: Runner prepares for unexpected

From page 12

friends,” said Williams, who is now president of the group. “Not only do we train together and see each other every day, we check on each other and make sure everyone’s lives are going well. We compete together. It is where I want to be.”

Her first marathon was at the San Diego Marathon in 2007 with Austin’s Twenty-Six-Two Marathon Group, where she says she made all of the rookie mistakes like starting fast.

Just a year later, she won a free entry into the New York Marathon through a fundraising raffle for Twenty-Six-Two. Determined not to make the same mistakes as she did in San Diego, Williams ended up with an entire new situation that presented itself at mile 18 of the race. She realized that the only way she was going to make her time goal to qualify for the Boston Marathon was to keep the same pace and not stop for anything — not even water.

“I was either going to make it at the exact time I wanted to, or I was just going to fall apart trying to get there,” Williams said.

At mile 25 she blacked out. After multiple attempts from various race officials to get her off the track, Williams refused

and finished the last mile in 25 minutes, immediately collapsing after the finish line to be carried away on a stretcher to the medical tent.

“I thought I was dying,” Williams said. “I really asked them, ‘Is this how I am going to die?’ You just lose all sense at that point; I don’t know what it is. When you run that long, you just go crazy.”

Paul Carmona, head coach of Twenty-Six-Two and Williams’ coach for three years, said the 21-year-old remains positive despite the bout of bad luck during her races, a quality that may benefit her as an athlete.

“As she was telling me the story of the New York Marathon and how she felt like she was dying, she was laughing,” Carmona said. “She always has a positive outlook on life, and I definitely think that will help her as a runner.”

When asked about her motivation she credits her military upbringing; both of her parents were in the Air Force. After her father retired, her mother transferred to the Navy for 24 more years and became a doctor. Her parents recently settled in Austin after her mother retired.

“Being a military family, we brought up our children with discipline, honor, courage and commitment,” said Leila, Wil-

liams’ mother. “We knew all our children can do whatever they wish to do. They may not succeed in all of it, but as long as they gave it their best — there is no shame in that.”

Williams is ranked second in her age group and has a predicted race time of three hours and 30 minutes based off of previous races’ calculations. Considering that the qualification time for The Boston Marathon is three hours and 40 minutes, Carmona said he has no doubt that Williams will run well.

“She is one of those runners that is naturally gifted,” he said. “I have never had to fix her mechanics. [The Boston Marathon] is certainly in range for her.”

Williams said because of her consistent training, she feels healthier than ever before. Her mistakes have taught her not to fret about inevitable problems and may ultimately lead her to her goal.

“Something is going to go wrong, something always goes wrong,” Williams says. “I just need to remember that it’s going to happen and I am going to get through it somehow. I am going to finish no matter what. One of my primary goals is to finally qualify for Boston — hopefully third time’s a charm.”



Katherine Medlin | Daily Texan Staff

Ciara Keith contributes a mixture of burlesque, go-go dance and theatrical styles to the Texas Sweet Tease performance troupe.

# DANCE: Fusion of dance styles produces powerful expressions

From page 11

I’m both and I love it.”

The choreography of Texas Sweet Tease performances begins with a group of girls sitting in a room listening to music for inspiration. With a little brainstorming and experimental dancing, they begin to develop themed story lines appropriate for each stage performance. Keith recalled her first performance as a creative flood.

“It was nerve-wracking, poetic

and fun,” she said. “Performing is always an unfolding experience of emotions.”

Keith said the hardest part about this business is the politics. The troupe recently let their old manager go and left the production to be run entirely by the female performers, causing some organizational strife for the team. This is the only obstacle to Keith’s occupation — except for her mother, she said. Her mother eventually warmed up to the idea, though, donating to Keith her first pair of

performance shoes.

Keith sees acceptance in a modern world that promotes female sexuality. Performances by powerful women such as Beyonce or Lady Gaga, as well as music videos and popular movies like “Pretty Woman” or “Moulin Rouge,” testify to the importance of female sexuality and expression in pop culture.

“We all crave the provocative, exotic and unique,” she said. “I think all women secretly want to express themselves sexually.”

# BAND: Each member plays crucial role

From page 11

covers. [And] we have been talking ever since we graduated that this was something we wanted to continue and do our own original stuff.”

Oddly enough, Reinisch’s aesthetic — born out of a life-long attraction to bands like Wilco, Whiskeytown and Uncle Tupelo — caught the attention of Grueneberg, local musician and former guitarist for local punk outfit Consider the Source. After meeting at a happy hour, Rienisch and Grueneberg began talks about putting a band together.

“Seth kind of lit [the] fire under my ass,” said Rienisch. “I thought he was just bullshitting me, honestly. Until he showed up at my house.”

Even though Grueneberg’s musical background is more in tune with more roguish styles of rock, he has actually become the spearhead of the band’s folksier

edge. Guns of Navarone’s occasional mandolin-playing comes straight from Grueneberg’s affinity for the instrument.

“Seth is just such a naturally good musician that he picked [my mandolin] up and started writing these amazing parts with it,” Reinisch said. “When we bring a song in and we feel like it needs something added, we just do whatever feels natural.”

On their way into the studio to cut their first EP later this month, the bandmates are humbly aware of their freshness in such a music-saturated scene.

“Seth has been there with Consider the Source [for all those years],” Reinisch said. “And he has seen bands go up and have their falling. [We know that we] are still so young and new and in the infancy stages.”

But veteran knowledge and green ambitions haven’t given Guns of Navarone a sense of entitlement.

“I just want to play something

[like] this,” Grueneberg said matter-of-factly.

“And we’ve got a great guy in our corner with James [Taylor, of Giant Steps Productions],” Reinisch said. “He’s been helping us with shows. And without him, I think that this would have been a much more strenuous process.”

With a full set of songs under its belt, the band is already preparing for a full-length recording this summer. But big plans and growing attention hasn’t changed what these guys really are — a group of friends down for just about anything, from talking about music to offering dating advice.

“You’ll wake up someday, and it will all make sense,” Reinisch said.

But, for some reason, I think his advice is more apt for his story than mine. After toying with his guitar almost his entire life, I think Reinisch is finally onto something.

# INDIA: UT students hope to make a difference

From page 12

and economics junior. “That’s one of the things I’m looking forward to most about the trip — learning about their lifestyle and the hardships they have to endure and hopefully helping them as much as I can.”

Ever since the trip was made official in October, the students have been raising money to cover its cost, estimated at \$3,000. Even with this high figure and constant fundraising efforts, the students said it should pay off in the end.

“I’ve had really good experiences [from past mission trips], which has contributed to the reason I want to go on this trip to India,”

Haustein said. “You always go with the intention of helping others, but you come back realizing how much they’ve really helped you and touched your life.”

Boudreaux said problems have developed throughout India with parents abandoning their children at orphanages in hopes that they will lead better lives. The Miracle Foundation created a “Lunch and Learn” program, in which children attend local schools and are provided with a uniform, books, two meals a day and an after-school program at the orphanage.

“There were a lot of occasions where the kids would come to class, but then around the harvest season, they wouldn’t come

to school anymore because they would be out in the fields helping their parents,” Boudreaux said. “That’s when we decided that the parents had to make a pact with us. If they weren’t committed to their kids’ futures and educations, their kids couldn’t be in our Lunch and Learn program. We’re not there to feed their kids, we’re there to educate them.”

The Miracle Foundation offers many opportunities each year for volunteers to visit the orphanages.

To learn more about The Miracle Foundation and how to donate to this cause (and donate money to the UT spring break mission trip), go to the organization’s Web site at [www.miraclefoundation.org](http://www.miraclefoundation.org).

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By DAVID QUILET

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A R U R Y H C R R L S L S F O  
M C P O E E T I A P O I C F L  
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O I S D T O S O N K A A U S  
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3	7	8	9	6	4	2	5	1
5	9	6	8	1	2	3	4	7
6	3	9	5	2	7	8	1	4
8	1	2	3	4	9	7	6	5
7	4	5	6	8	1	9	2	3
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2	6	7	4	9	5	1	3	8
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Katherine Medlin | Daily Texan Staff

Ciara Keith, also known as “Ginger Clementine,” is a member of Texas Sweet Tease, a local performance troupe that fuses various forms of dance, theatre and acrobatics. The troupe utilizes each others’ creative energy to create a unique theme for each performance.

# Dancing brings women together

By Emily Royall  
Daily Texan Staff

Effortlessly spinning a glowing hula hoop, local performance-art dancer Ciara Keith raises a cherry-lipped smile to her audience. Dressed in a homemade outfit of glittering ribbons and tulle, Keith slips easily between sultry positions on stage, endlessly maintaining the elliptical spin of her hoop. Both sexy and acrobatic, Keith’s performance art is a fusion of burlesque, go-go dancing and theatre.

Go-go dancing — derived from the French expression for joy, “la gogue” — originated in the mid-60s when women at the Peppermint Lounge in Manhattan started dancing the Twist on bar tables. Go-go dancing has since evolved to incorporate a number of psychedelic props, including pythons, toy guns, glittery costumes and of

course, go-go boots. Burlesque, however, is far more antique and was started in the late 19th century as a humorous variety show in which striptease was the main attraction.

Keith makes a fine distinction between go-go dancing and burlesque. “What I do is much more than that,” Keith said. “I’m an expansive participant in an amazing performance with strong, independent women.”

Keith is a part of the performance troupe, Texas Sweet Tease, which fuses the exotic elements of go-go dancing, burlesque, street and circus performance all conducted with a masquerade-like majesty. The women in the group have varying talents that include stilts, break dancing, pole dancing, acrobatics, costume design, aerial performance, fire dancing and hula

hooping.

The troupe, backed by Austin socialite and costume designer Jennifer Ayers, consists of several women, each with their own stylized alias linked in themed performances. At 19, Keith was recruited for the group and is only beginning to learn the tricks of the trade one year later.

“It never comes up that I’m the youngest,” she said. “We engage in an immaculate relationship where we inspire each other, catch up, collaborate and learn from one another.”

With a wealth of performance skills to be acquired, Keith embarked on a fast-paced journey to explore her own sexuality as she learned from the independent women of her troupe.

The first step to becoming a member is creating a stage persona. Keith’s alias, “Ginger Clementine,” was developed through

self-examination.

“Your persona is something you participate in daily,” she said. “You start with something that’s already you, and then exaggerate everything within yourself.”

Ginger Clementine, an adorable Southern housewife clad in brightly colored aprons and neon orange pig-tailed hair, reflects the fundamental elements of Keith’s life and personality. Playing on the spicy nature of ginger and the sweetness of clementines — her favorite fruit and color — Ginger Clementine is not so much who Keith wishes to be, but who she already is.

“I have 32 aprons at home,” she remarked comically. “Ginger Clementine is sweet and spicy.

DANCE continues on page 9

# Local band gains popularity with its uniquely eclectic sound

By Mary Lingwall  
Daily Texan Staff

Usually, it takes a few years for a local band to get notoriety in Austin. However, only about seven months after its first jam session and a few weeks away from recording its debut EP, Guns of Navarone is quickly gaining an enthusiastic, eclectic fan base.

When Guns of Navarone played at The Parlor on North Loop Boulevard a few Fridays ago, I was struck by the diversity of fans at the show. Amid the plaid-clad regulars of the Austin music scene, I also ran into two college students in cowboy boots and quite a few fresh-faced college-aged women.

When Guns of Navarone started playing, I realized why the band’s fan base not only packed The Parlor to capacity, but also drew from diverse music sub-cultures. By mixing alternative-country aesthetics with detailed and upbeat guitar riffs, and bass lines of a Southern rock flavor

**WHAT:** Guns of Navarone and Crooks

**WHERE:** Lovejoy’s, 604 Neches St.

**WHEN:** Tonight, 10 p.m.

with the songwriting and vocal stylings of Americana and folk traditions, Guns of Navarone’s sound fills a unique — and largely vacant — musical niche in Austin.

Guns of Navarone’s sound is the natural product of a collaborative process between Seth Grueneberg on lead guitar, Cory Reinisch on vocals and guitar, Richard Knox on drums and Dustin Meyer on bass guitar. Longtime friends and former roommates, Reinisch and Knox have played music together since college.


“We did mostly covers,” Reinisch said before starting to laugh. “Well, that was a lie, it was all

BAND continues on page 9



Rebecca Miller | Daily Texan Staff

Guns of Navarone members have played music together since college.



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## Marathon runner attempts to qualify for esteemed race

*Editor's Note: This is the first in a bimonthly series looking into the lives of students who help shape the city of Austin.*

By Amber Genuske  
 Daily Texan Staff

On a Friday night at Posse East, a large group of UT students pull two picnic tables together to share three pitchers of beer and gorge on hamburgers and french fries. Some smell of fresh shampoo, others are in their nylon running shorts — their faces still flush with the blood in their cheeks from the brisk winter night. A girl with dimples, turquoise earrings and a khaki jacket asks if the restaurant serves portabella burgers — she doesn't want to indulge a little more than a week away from her third marathon.

Priscilla Williams, an architectural engineering senior, is only 21 and will add the Austin Marathon on Saturday to her list of 26-mile runs, including the San

Diego and New York Marathons, both attempts to qualify for the most prestigious race for runners — The Boston Marathon.

"[Running] has definitely become my life," said Williams, who runs around 55 miles a week. "I have so many things going on, it's my only time during the day where I can take to myself and think about everything going on and organize my life. I guess it's what keeps me running, keeps me going. I just need it to stay sane in this world."

An athlete since she was 12, Williams dropped all other sports in high school when she excelled in cross country and track. After she was accepted to UT, she found Texas Marathon, a group of around 75 students at varying skill levels, with up to 25 that run together on a daily basis — rain or shine.

"These are some of my best

**RACE** continues on page 9



Bruno Morlan | Daily Texan Staff

Priscilla Williams, president of the UT Marathon Club, is participating in the Austin Marathon on Sunday.

## Foundation transforms lives

By Katherine Kloc  
 Daily Texan Staff

When Caroline Boudreaux first visited India in 2000, she was horrified. She had visited impoverished countries before but had never seen children so obviously neglected as some of the Indian children in the orphanage system.

"Not only did they not have parents, but they didn't have food, they didn't have good clothing and they were filthy — which doesn't have anything to do with money," Boudreaux said. "It's cheap to be clean, you just have to have someone who cares enough about you to clean you."

After returning to the U.S., Boudreaux quit her corporate job and committed herself to trying to improve the lives of these children. Boudreaux began The Miracle Foundation as an international adoption organization dedicated to finding American homes for Indian orphans but soon realized that more orphans would be helped if they remained in India.

"It took me about four years after meeting the orphans to figure out that it wasn't adoptions that we wanted to do, it was taking care of children in an excellent way that launches them out of the cycle of poverty," Boudreaux said. "You can help hundreds of thousands this way. With international adoptions, you may help twenty or thirty a year."

After a few years of trial and error, The Miracle Foundation began building its own orphanages. Unlike the corrupt orphanages Boudreaux said she encountered in 2000, her organization's orphanages were designed to empower each child to reach his or her full potential. The facilities were divided into individual family-style units, with each unit composed of one house-mother and 10 children of various ages.

Although the oldest child in The Miracle Foundation system is 14 years old, the group intends for the children to remain a part of their family after they leave the orphanage. As in any other family, the children are responsible for making something of their lives after high-school graduation.

"When you graduate from high school, your parents will say, 'You either need to get a job, go to vocational training, go to college, or you need to get married,'" Boudreaux said. "So those are the four options for our children. The plan is to get them to college and to get them a job."



Mary Kang | Daily Texan Staff

Caroline Boudreaux is the founder of The Miracle Foundation, an international organization that strives to help orphans in India.

This year, 15 UT students associated with the University Catholic Center will spend spring break at two of The Miracle Foundation orphanages, where they will play and talk with the orphans.

For many of the students, it will be the first time they visit a Third World country.

"People keep asking me what I expect when I get there, and the most honest answer I can give is that I'm expecting the unexpected," said Ashley Haustein, a Plan II

**INDIA** continues on page 9

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dt Weekend

February 12, 2010

Happ y

Va lentine' s

Da y





Photo s by Lauren Gerson



music

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editor's note

The fateful day is drawing near. Whether your last-minute card search stems out of spite for the holiday, a busy schedule or you've been plain lazy, I'm here to help. This insta-valentine is perfect for any card exchange you may fall victim to this weekend. Simply fill-in-the-blanks with whatever platonic, sentimental, descriptive and raunchy words come to mind for the recipient, cut along the dotted line, and seal with a \_\_\_\_\_.

Love,

Rachel

Dear \_\_\_\_\_,

I woke up this \_\_\_\_\_ and I \_\_\_\_\_ at the thought of you. Not only are you \_\_\_\_\_, you're also very \_\_\_\_\_. My \_\_\_\_\_ follows your \_\_\_\_\_ voice and I \_\_\_\_\_ like a \_\_\_\_\_ at the whisper of your name. Bottom line, you are extremely \_\_\_\_\_ and I \_\_\_\_\_ you! When I first saw you, I quickly \_\_\_\_\_ and then, just as suddenly, \_\_\_\_\_. All I want is to \_\_\_\_\_ your \_\_\_\_\_.

Will you \_\_\_\_\_ with me? Don't let your \_\_\_\_\_ discourage you, \_\_\_\_\_ are just jealous.

Yours \_\_\_\_\_,

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Giulio Yaquinto  
Lauren Gerson  
Mary Kang  
Chris Kosho  
Katherine Medlin



# This Week's Recommendations

By Rachel Meador and Jessica Billeaud

## Soundcheck Magazine's \$2 Show

Thursday, 9 p.m.

Emo's

Get out for a good cause and be entertained by the musical stylings of Kalu James, PolySky, Andrew Anderson and Chief Rival. Soundcheck teams up with the \$2 Show organization, which puts on cheap shows get people out in the music and arts scene while benefitting nonprofit organizations in the community. The proceeds will benefit Austin Children's Shelter — so you'll be having fun with fly new music, and you'll be helping out a great cause.

## Love Bites: The Power Ballad Sing-Along

Thursday, 10:30 p.m.

Alamo Drafthouse Downtown

Tickets: \$12

Valentine's Day can really suck when you don't have a significant other to dote on. The drafthouse offers the opportunity to cry in your beer, clutch your heart, and sing power ballads until you

feel all better. The event, in its fifth year, includes music from once-glamorous artists like Guns 'n Roses, Poison and plenty of teased hair and sparkling spandex. Get your tickets soon — they're going fast.

## VD Extravagasm

Thursday, doors at 9 p.m., 18+

The Independent Studio

Tickets: \$10

The women of Austin's own Carousel Cabaret will perform their finely tuned teases for your pleasure. For all you shy ones, don't worry, cabaret is an art form, and there's no better day to indulge your curiosities than on Valentine's Day.

## Wild Harem

Friday 8 p.m.

Club 1808, 1808 E. 12th Street

Tickets: \$5

Wild Harem is as awesome as the name would have you believe. The quintet's songs sound like old-school rock 'n' roll licks turned slightly spacey, but still on point. The majority of bands in Austin wish they were this good.

Checkout [myspace.com/someotheratx](http://myspace.com/someotheratx) for more information.

## KLBJ Pleasurefest

Friday, 8 p.m.

Aces Lounge

Tickets: \$10

Get your erotic questions answered, and explore wild possibilities at KLBJ's Pleasurefest. The four-hour event features shows by sultry local performers including Black Widow Burlesque, Carousel Cabaret and Miss Sophie. Activities includes a fantasy photo booth, fearless body painters, a BDSM play area and booths from some of Austin's best adult shops. 18+ only.

## RJD2

Saturday, 9 p.m.

Emo's

Tickets: \$18

Beatmaker Ramble John Krohn slid into the electronic and hip-hop scenes some 10 years ago and his sound has been evolving ever since.

Since his newest album, *The Colossus*, employs stronger melodic elements and takes on the form of songs, rather than beats, RJD2's tour now features a full live band during parts of the show. But he'll still be toiling on turntables and samplers. With openers Kenan Bell and Happy Chichester, Saturday's show is sure to please the electronic music fan, especially if your ear bends more toward pop. If you love his infectious tune "Smoke and Mirrors," then that's more than enough reason to go.

## Sherry Vine

Sunday, 7 p.m. and 9 p.m.,

Oilcan Harry's, 18+

Sherry Vine is a nationally acclaimed drag performer and was awarded HX Magazine's Drag Queen of the Year Award in 2007. She'll be performing a special Valentine's Day show this Sunday — and she does a mean Lady Gaga impersonation.

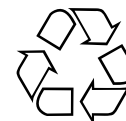
## French Kiss the Cook

Sunday, 5p.m. to close 18+

Kiss and Fly, 404 Colorado Street

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# Focus Group pumps hearts

## Austin band melds unexpected genres

By Giulio Yaquinto

If Austin is a musical melting pot for different genres, then local ensemble Focus Group is a perfect embodiment of the endless possibilities. The result is a medley of sounds harmoniously arranged to get your body moving and heart pumping.

All five members bring a different perspective of music-making to the table, with backgrounds ranging from

sample-based production to classically trained musicianship to good old fashion rock 'n' roll. At times, you might think your listening to the addictive loop of a hip-hop beat accompanied by funky bass rhythms. At other times, you might lose yourself in the depths of psychedelic guitar licks balanced by classical piano melodies and the warm echoing of a live trombone.

"We had all played together

in different projects going back as far as high school, so it made sense," the band says.

Formed nearly three years ago, they played their first show at an old retirement home-turned music space in South Austin. Since then they've appeared at every Austin staple from Emo's to The Scoot Inn, intriguing fans with their energetic performance.

"We definitely try to keep it fun and danceable at the show so everyone can have a good time."

If you're more interested in being wowed musically than moving your body, you will not be let down. The band's ability to switch between styles and successfully blend different sounds with one another is uncanny, and a real thrill for the audience. So, be sure to take yourself, along

what: FOCUS GROUP  
where: THE GHOST ROOM,  
304 W. 4th ST.  
when: FRIDAY, 10 P.M.  
online: [www.myspace.com/focusgrouppage](http://www.myspace.com/focusgrouppage)  
tickets: \$5

with your friends, to the show this Friday at The Ghost Room (formerly The Ginger Man) on Fourth Street in between Lavaca and Guadalupe streets.



Photo courtesy of Focus Group

Focus Group's eclectic backgrounds influence the funky diversity of their sound. Check them out Friday at The Ghost Room, and be prepared to dance.



# Bands play circus of sounds

By Joe Holloway

Ask the members of Fatback Circus to describe their music, and it might be a second before you get an answer. They're not dodging the question. They're simply trying to figure out the best way to phrase the answer.

"It's kind of progressive, harder rock," said Dalton Chamblee, the bassist of the local band. "It's kind of an eclectic mix of genres."

And that's exactly what one should expect at the Flamingo Cantina at 10 p.m. tonight: a variety of styles mixed together for a \$5 cover.

"I still hear people saying they hear a lot of Primus," drummer Garrett Ross said. "It's hard to say, but I say Primus meets Jeff Buckley."

Chamblee mentions that Fatback Circus does covers of the legendary rock band, Led Zeppelin.

"It sucks to say that, because as a musician it's almost blasphemous, but we definitely look up to them," Ross responds, "but we're definitely a rock band."

Adding to the eclectic mix are opening bands Sour Bridges and Man Made Fire. In addition to his role in Fatback



Photo courtesy of Sour Bridges

Local band Sour Bridges has a folk sound, yet still manages to fit in at reggae-vibed venue Flamingo Cantina, where they play tonight.

Circus, Chamblee also plays drums in Sour Bridges, a more country-and-folk inspired band.

It should be a good vibe for the Flamingo Cantina. Chamblee said the club has a nice reggae-rock feel to it.

"I've been booking shows there for about a year now. We do like once a month there," he said. "I hope we have a shit load of people there, and I hope everyone has fun."

As for the Fatback portion of the show, don't be surprised if there's a good amount of in-

teraction between the band and the audience.

"It's like a party," Chamblee said, characterizing his band's concerts. "There's been times when people have come on stage and sang along. There's a lot of drinking."

He also said that while the band is ready for the show, most of Fatback's energies have gone into recording.

"Both bands, Sour Bridges and Fatback Circus, are recording albums. I'm doing most of it right here at the house," Chamblee said,

## Local acts offer interactive show

looking around at the sound-proofed roof and Pro Tools on the computer desktop. "We've been recording more than anything, but we'll get a good practice in before the show."

Ross said the Fatback Circus album should be out in the next year.

"We're very perfectionist.

what: FATBACK CIRCUS  
where: FLAMINGO CANTINA  
when: THURSDAY, 10 P.M.  
tickets: \$5

We just take a while," he said. "Realistically, I would say a year. But it's going to be the best thing we've ever done. I guarantee it."

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# Digital Love dance party

Beats collide in Missions' spacey world

By Michele Pierini

Dark disco fans venture out from your caves and head to the Independent this Friday night to catch some heavy space synths from Missions. The group will be playing the Knuckle Rumbler and Playing in Traffic Records' Valentine's weekend event: Digital Love. The headliner is local indie-electro band SPEAK, but Missions' members Amber Zook and Markus Diffie will also be playing in other acts that night. Zook is in the band Love at 20 and Diffie is DJ Markus with a K, who will be providing music in between sets.

Despite the group's novice status, the Austin-based

“Space is the place.”

— AMBER ZOOK  
Missions

band has already shared the stage with the likes of Junior Boys. During their very first appearance, Missions opened for the electronic masterminds.

“We couldn't have asked for more of a perfect show,” Diffie said. The Canadian duo is one

of his favorite bands.

Each of the three band members has been involved in separate music projects. Josh Mills (vocals, synth, percussion) is formerly of the now-defunct eight-piece dance outfit, Clap! Clap! More percussion and synths are played by Diffie, who also DJs under the name Markus with a K. Zook completes the electronica on a third set of synths. With their powers combined, Missions delivers chill tracks from the outer reaches of Saturn's rings.

Before Missions, Diffie and Mills knew each other while living in Dallas. They both ended up moving to Austin: Diffie was chasing the music dream while Mills came to the city for school. Later, they reconnected while working a day job at the trendy clothing chain, American Apparel.

The hip soundtrack of the Am Appy atmosphere brought them together—they realized that they shared a mutual love of music and discovered they even share the same birthdate. Their bond became a band.

Diffie puts his graphic-art skills to good use by creating all the promotional design for the band. He bleaches the band's logo, a pyramid filled with a shadow of Saturn, onto shirts purchased from thrift stores.

Missions' logo is also found on their self-titled eight-track EP that quietly debuted last fall.

The album opens with the track “Phantasy,” which starts with some industrial sound that quickly fades into heavy synths partnered with vocoder action. “Mayday, Mayday,” features haunting vocals over

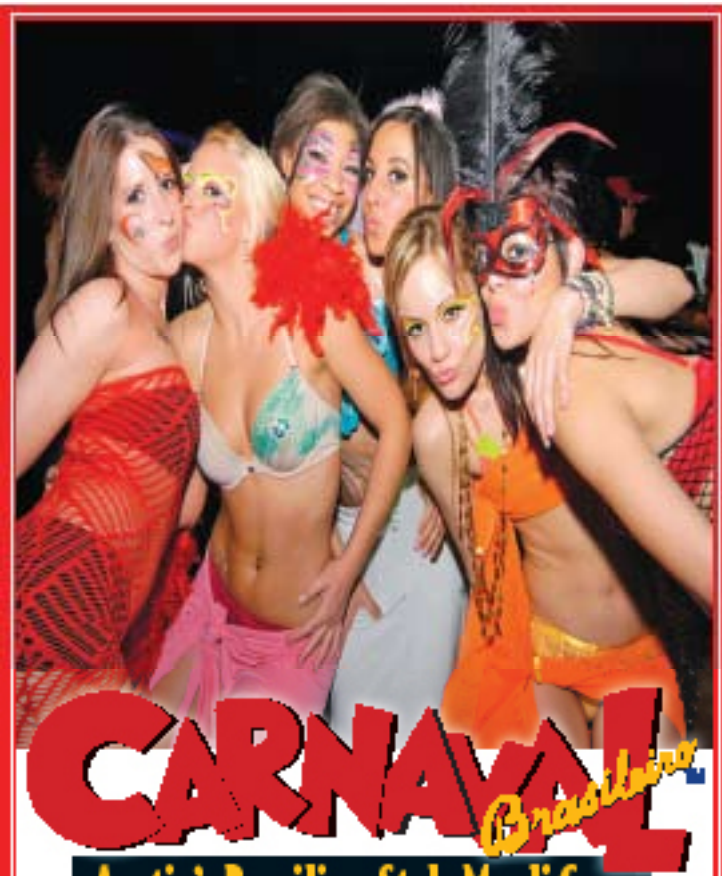
what: MISSIONS  
where: THE INDEPENDENT  
when: FRIDAY, 9 P.M.  
tickets: \$10

layers of dark electro.

Highlights include two remixes. One of which is the transformation of Dirty Projectors' single “Stillness is the Move” into a shiny, danceable gem. The other is the ultimate rework of “Orinoco Flow (Sail Away)” by Enya that changes it from mom's favorite song to seven minutes of catchy pop set to banger beats.

This kind of creativity is not going to stay under the radar for much longer. Don't miss out on your chance to see Missions before they explode.

Their music could do damage on any dance floor at any club, but as Zook clearly puts it, “space is the place.”



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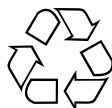
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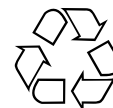


Photo by Lauren Gerson

Indie-electronic band Missions are good of friends as well as bandmates. Listen to their Saturn-inspired beats at the Digital Love party Friday.



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Malaia	\$2 Any L liquor	\$1 Domestic Beers, \$2 Wells, \$3 Bombs	\$1 Domestic Beers, \$2 Wells, \$3 Bombs	\$1 Wells	\$2 Domestic Beers, \$2 Wells til 11pm	\$2 Domestic Beers, \$2 Wells til 11pm	\$2 Domestic Beers, \$2 Wells til 11pm
Aces Lounge	DJ Digg all night, \$1 wells & domestics	Industry Night \$2 wells & domestics	Jumping from Jets \$2 domestics	DJ School \$2 wells & domestics	18+ w/ DJ Protege \$2 wells & dms til 11p	8+ DJ Showcase w/ special guest DJs every week	18+ DJ Showcase w/ special guest DJs every week
BJ's	All Day NFL \$1 off Pints & Cocktails, \$2 off Apps, 1/2 off mini pizzas	3-7 & 9-11PM HH, \$1 off Pints and Cocktails, \$2 off Apps, 1/2 off mini pizzas	\$2 Pints, 1/2 off Wine, \$1 off Cocktails, \$2 off Apps, \$2 off mini pizzas	3-7 & 9-11PM HH, \$1 off Pints and Cocktails, \$2 off Apps, 1/2 off mini pizzas	3-7 & 9-11PM HH, \$1 off Pints and Cocktails, \$2 off Apps, 1/2 off mini pizzas	3-7 & 9-11PM HH, \$1 off Pints and Cocktails, \$2 off Apps, 1/2 off mini pizzas	NA
Buffalo Billiards	\$3.50 Vodka & Lemonade	\$2 Light Drafts, 1/2 off Pool	All Night HH, 1/2 off Apps	\$2 Highlife Draft & Lstar Tboys	\$2 Wells and Select Drafts	\$3.50 Vodka/Lemonade	\$3.50 Vodka/Lemonade
Cain's	\$2 off Sun Fun Day, \$2 Top Shelf	3 - 11 \$2 Pints Dos XX and Miller Lite	\$1 Bottles Bud, Bud Lite, Miller Lite, Coors Lite	7-11 \$3 Ritas	7-11 \$6 32oz Teas	7-11 \$3.50 Bombs	7-11 \$2 off Dos XX & Miller Lite Pitchers
Melting Pot	Bar - 1/2 Off Cheese & Chocolate Fondues/\$2 Dom, \$4 Wells, \$7 Martinis	Bar - 1/2 Off Cheese & Chocolate Fondues; Ladies Night - 3 Course Meal \$24	Bar - 1/2 Off Cheese & Chocolate Fondues/\$2 Dom, \$4 Wells, \$7 Martinis	Bar - 1/2 Off Cheese & Chocolate Fondues/\$2 Dom, \$4 Wells, \$7 Martinis	Bar - 1/2 Off Cheese & Choc Fondues; 20% off dinner with College ID	Bar - 1/2 Off Cheese & Choc Fondue; Martini Madness - 3 tins for \$15	Bar - 1/2 Off Cheese & Chocolate Fondues/\$2 Dom, \$4 Wells, \$7 Martinis
Cuatros	\$4 Zing Zang Bloodys	ALL Mexican Beer \$2.50 after 7PM, \$3.25 Michelada	\$2 Random Beers after 7PM	\$1.50 Pints, \$6 Pitchers	\$1.50 Select Dom	\$7 Select Pitchers	\$7 Select Pitchers
Trudy's	3-Close \$3.95 Killer B's	\$5.00 Mex. Martini's	Top Shelf Tuesday's	\$3.95 Famous House Margarita	Palomas \$4.75	Sangria Margaritas \$4.95	Strawberry Margaritas \$4.50
Dizzy Rooster	\$2 Wells & Domestics All Nite	\$2 Wells & Domestics All Nite	\$2 Wells & Domestics All Nite	\$2 Wells & Domestics All Nite	\$2 Wells & Domestics All Nite	\$2 Wells & Dom till 10	\$2 Wells & Dom
Drungo's Ice House	1/2 off Apps, \$1 PBR/\$10 Bckts	\$2 XX bottles 7pm - Close	\$2 Pints 7P - Close	\$1.50 Lonestar Pints	\$2 Off ALL Pitchers	\$1.50 Lonestar Pints	1/2 Off Select Apps, \$10 Bckts
El Sol Y La Luna	NA	Closed	4-7 HH Drinks & Apps	HH 4-7, Sept 16 Mariachi Tamazula 7-9pm	4-7 HH Drinks & Apps	4-7 HH Drinks & Apps, Sept.11 Oliver Rajamani 8-10	Sept. 12 Street Salsa 10:30-1:30am
Pie Guys	Michelades For Your Hangover!	Pint Night - Any Draft Pints \$2.50, \$1 Lonestars	\$2 Dos XX, \$2 Ritas or 2 Lg Pies and Lonestar Pitcher \$22	Reggae Night - \$2 Red Stripe, Anything Jack \$3	\$9.99 Lg Pies, Upsize to 32oz mug for \$1 Drafts	Miller High Life Buckets and any lg specialty pie for \$20	Miller High Life Buckets and any lg specialty pie for \$20
Little Woodrow's	\$2.50 Drafts All Day--Over 150 beers	\$2.50 Texas Beers All Day, Pearl and PBR \$1.25	Big Beer Night	\$2 Pints Of Lonestar All Day--Poker Night 8 & 10	\$4 25oz Mug Beers, 32 Beers on Tap	Austin's Best Happy Hour	\$3 You Call It 7-10P, \$2 Lonestar Pints
Library	\$1.50 Doms & Wells; \$3 UV Vodkas & Feckin Irish Whiskey	\$1.50 Doms and Wells	\$1.50 Doms and Wells	\$1 Miller High Life and PBR Cans; \$1.50 Doms; \$2 Import Drafts	\$1.50 Doms and Wells, \$2 Imports	\$2 U "Call" It until 11P, \$3 LIT	\$3 LIT All Night
Logan's On 6th	NA	1/2 Off Apps 4-10P	\$1 Corona, \$2 Ritas, 99 Cent Tacos till 12A	1/2 Off Apps 4-10P	\$5 Doms Open-Close, \$2.25 Wells, \$1 Jello Shots	1/2 Off Apps 4-10P	NA
Santa Rita	\$4.50 Bloodys, Mimosas, Mango. Brunch	2 for 1 Fajitas, \$5.50 Mex Marts during HH	\$2 Tecates, \$2 Tacos	\$2 Drafts & 25 Cent Wings	1/2 Off Appetizers w/student ID, \$2 Wells	\$3.75 Mango, Straw, Swirl Fro Ritas	\$4.50 Bloodys, Mimosas, Mango. Brunch
Terra Burger	N/A	\$1 Grab-n-Go Breakfast Tacos&Coffee	\$1 Grab-n-Go Breakfast Tacos&Coffee	\$1 Grab-n-Go Breakfast Tacos&Coffee	\$1 Grab-n-Go Breakfast Tacos&Coffee	\$1 Grab-n-Go Breakfast Tacos&Coffee, Sept.18 1/2 Price Organic Burgers	N/A
El Arroyo	\$2.50 Bloodys, Mimosas, Drivers All Day	\$1 Tecate 5-close	\$1 Ritas	1/2 Off Apps 3-7P, \$5 Select Ritas	\$1 Ritas 2-6P, \$2 Ritas 6-7P	\$1.95 Domestics, \$2.75 Ritas 2-7P	\$2.50 Bloodys, Mimosas, Drivers All Day
Pure Ultra Lounge	25 cent Wells ALL NIGHT	Closed	\$1 Wells, \$2 Beers	\$1 Any L liquor	\$1 Any Beer ALL NIGHT	\$2 Wells, \$2 Beers till 11pm	\$2 Wells, \$2 Beers till 11pm

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# Dance 'by, for the people'

Amateurs shine in Austin's Forklift Projects

By Janna Rock

All aboard for "Yes" land — a place you would find Allison Orr, artistic director of Austin's Forklift Danceworks, where everyone is a potential principal dancer, and any place is perfect for a performance.

It seems that nothing is exclusive or out of bounds for this choreographer. Orr's unique, head-turning approach uses primarily "ordinary people" for performances and unorthodox sites such as ice skating rinks. Innovation and illumination mark the reputation Orr has created for herself. Her most recent endeavor, Project Forklift, opening this weekend at The Off Center, is sure to sustain her popularity in Austin.

"Daily life in Austin — people and their work — these are my choreographic inspirations," Orr says, as she begins to reveal the significance of her work. Forklift Danceworks teamed up with Austin's sanitation department for a performance last September called The Trash Project, which involved 24 dump trucks, a crew of sanitation workers and one amazed audience.

"I want to broaden people's minds about what dance could be and what it could look like," Orr says. "But it's not the very first thing that excites me about making a piece. The first thing that excites me is when I see somebody doing something out in the world and I think 'God, I want to work like that.'"

Orr's work satisfies as much as it delights. She makes work about people and subcultures no matter how obscure or utilitarian their place in society may be. Orr pays homage to the everyman, and yet her work maintains a celebrated position in the city's performing arts scene. Let the lively following of Austin dance professionals speak for themselves.

what: FORKLIFT  
DANCEWORKS  
where: THE OFF CENTER  
when: FRIDAY-SAT., 8 P.M.  
FEB. 19- FEB. 20, 8 P.M.  
FEB. 21, 2 P.M.  
tickets: \$12-\$20

Project Forklift involves five choreographers who will be presenting works at Forklift using an untraditional cast approved by Orr. Although there will be some professional dancers, the show is packed with an anomalous cast of waitstaff, a senior citizen and a traffic cop, among other surprises.

When it comes to getting attention as a choreographer after 13 years in the business, Orr reflects on the words of those with a tinge of career-envy — comments such as, "You're just really lucky that you get to do that."

But Orr affirms, "I do feel really lucky ... I don't think I'm more talented or more creative than anyone else. I just decided that this is important ... you just have to work your butt off to make it happen."

Orr has in fact toiled to bring life to some pretty huge ideas and has found success in commitment to her work. Her dance philosophy, democratic in principle, is by the people and for the people. Her performers command an authenticity so rare and refreshing.

"I think there is an element of wanting to expand the definition of dancer and performer and wanting to evolve people who might not typically be found on stage," Orr says. "I seek to make connections ... it wasn't ever about virtuosity to me or having a dancer on the stage doing something that the people in the audience could never do."

However, for your sake, you may not want to try everything you see this weekend.



Sgt. Melissa McGrath dances in one of Forklift's community performance projects, which incorporate various facets of Austin life.



Allison Orr, left, directs the Forklift Project cameraman, Travis Benn.

Photos  
courtesy  
of Forklift  
Danceworks



## DTW Mix Tape: sappy, satirical and sexual

[illegible]



# Cozy, swanky tables for 2

How to impress your V-date

## WINE&DINE

A column by Brennan Lawler

There are few areas of my life where procrastinating doesn't complicate things — I think I'm on the Austin Public Library's "Most Wanted" list, and probably single-handedly responsible for keeping several local movie stores profitable with my rather large contributions of late fees. But even I started talking about making my Valentine's Day reservations about a month ago.

But if your priorities lie somewhere outside of good

food and cheesy romantic holidays, chances are good you haven't even begun to think about where you and your sweetheart will be dining this Sunday. Here are two great last minute options that are sure to win your heart.

If you're looking to wine and dine your date,

and you're not on a tight budget, you might be able to scoop up one of the last few reservations at Sullivan's Steakhouse downtown. The restaurant is elegant, and you're likely to get the feeling that Humphrey Bogart and Ingrid Bergman will sidle up to the bar at any moment. It doesn't hurt that they have an entire stocked humidor, full of cigars and nostalgia.

If you're looking for a cheaper way to sample the dining at Sullivan's, try visiting for lunch the day before Valentine's Day. It's unconventional, but the atmosphere is just as nice, and the food is just as good. A great way to get out for under \$20 a plate is to order the business lunch special. It's served with your choice of starter. I opted for the as-

what: SULLIVAN'S  
where: 300 COLORADO ST.  
reservations:  
[www.sullivansteakhouse.com](http://www.sullivansteakhouse.com)

what: BLUE DAHLIA BISTRO  
where: 1115 E. 11<sup>th</sup> ST.

paragus bisque, a delicious and creamy chilled soup with crab meat. For your entrée, choose from a juicy filet mignon, roasted chicken breast or a lightly seasoned salmon filet. They're each served with fresh vegetables and Sullivan's fantastic horseradish mashed potatoes for \$18.

Another great option for your Valentine's Day dining is the Blue Dahlia Bistro on East 11th Street. The small restaurant is gently lit and inviting, and separated from the traffic outside by a small garden. If the weather is good, definitely sit on the back patio — it's completely

enclosed and full of fragrant plants and a friendly waitstaff makes it nice and cozy. The best part — no reservation is needed.

The French-inspired menu is innovative and quite large, considering the size of the restaurant. If you're swinging by for lunch, check out the tartines — it's a French word meaning "slices," and it's how the Blue Dahlia bills its delicious sampling of sandwiches. The roasted turkey with cranberry chutney (\$6.95) or the hummus with avocado, sprouts and tomatoes are both great options served on soft, fresh-baked whole wheat bread.

If you're visiting the Blue Dahlia for dinner on Valentine's Day, there's a great twist on a breakfast staple that's definitely worth trying. My

“The restaurant is elegant, and you're likely to get the feeling that Humphrey Bogart and Ingrid Bergman will sidle up to the bar at any moment.”



Photo by Chris Kosho

By day, The Blue Dahlia serves Austin as a hip cafe, but by night, the restaurant transforms into an intimate dinner setting, perfect for your sweetheart.



If you're looking for a swanky way to celebrate Valentine's Day, then the fancy martinis and elegant atmosphere at Sullivan's is the way to go.

Photo by Katherine Medlin

waiter suggested the mushroom crepes in bleu cheese Parmesan sauce for first timers (\$8.95). The crepes are light and fluffy, filled with mushrooms and cheese, a decadent combination that is more filling than you might expect. Another great mushroom dish is the porcini ravioli

with basil pesto (\$8.95). The pesto was salty and tangy and paired perfectly with the mild flavor of the porcini. Each dinner entree is served with fresh mesclun greens and bread. A small wine list covers a diverse array of European and Central American wines — there are only three French options, but

a glass of the Italian Canaletto Pinot Noir (\$7.95) compliments the porcini better anyway.

If you're really cutting it close, there's always the Anti-Valentine's Beer Pong Tournament at Plucker's. It's not quite fine dining, but it's \$1 beers and 50 cent wings. Just stop putting it off — and go eat!



# This V-Day, experiment with friends

Grab a bottle for some platonic fun

## RAGE ON MINIMUM WAGE

A column by Han Park &  
Marla Segura

Whether you're single or spoken For, Valentine's Day shouldn't be taken too seriously. Since it's a Hallmark holiday anyway, let's just use February 14 as an excuse to make this weekend last one more night. It's better than sitting at home watching the "Sex and the City" movie or "Entourage" reruns with a bottle of Yellow Tail, sending booty-texts to your ex.

Why not cut out the middleman, dodge the extra expenses of a bourgeois dinner and concoct some cocktails at your place with your homies?

If you're really hurting for cash and you're feeling a little experimental, check out the "Bargain Bin" at Centennial right off the Drag. There's always an assortment of random bottles for 30% off. And, as with any liquor store, there's always the fun of perusing the aisles and finding something obscure.

This is exactly what we did the other night; got together a couple bottles of

something cheap, told our friends to each bring over some random mixers, and got cracking with a little trial and error. (This is also a great way to clear out your fridge — you're never going to drink that pack of V8 that you bought in January for your New Year's resolution.) Turn this Valentine's Day into a party with some friends, liquor, some ingenuity, a few limes and a jug of store-brand orange juice.

In fair warning, a few drinks that had to be taken to the drain, so expect the same. Being a guinea pig for these cocktail experiments — made from whatever's in the pantry/fridge/spice rack — takes some bravery and some liquid courage. But we promise, you'll eventually find the perfect drink for the night.

Maybe you'll end up like us, talking to the neighbor lady about Marlon Brando well into the love-drunk night. Valentine's Day is about spreading the love, and a slurred, "I love you" will work just fine. With that, we are pleased to present to you the Swoop and Squat, our one success (seriously, it's a doozy), along with a couple of other popular recipes.



Photo by Lauren Gerson  
Use Valentine's Day as a chance to be your own bartender — the only limit is your imagination. Best when done with friends.

### Swoop and Squat

1 shot whiskey  
1 shot gin  
4 ounces orange juice  
1 slice of lime

### Hot Bitch (shooter)

1 dash of Tabasco sauce  
one-half ounce Gin  
one-half ounce Vodka  
one-half ounce whiskey

### The Confirmed Bachelor

1 egg white  
1 1/2 ounces Gin  
1 teaspoon grenadine  
crushed ice  
one-half teaspoon  
lime juice

## A Very Special Valentines



Petigree.

So who did your  
roommate take out  
for Valentine's Day?

The one he  
loves the  
most...







Photo by Mary Kang

Lynn Raridon, owner of the sex shop Forbidden Fruit, has been in business for 12 years. The store's goal is to welcome people of any gender, orientation or background.

# Keeping Austin kinky

Where 'every day is Valentine's Day'

By Tori Daughtrey

Before taking a bite out of Austin's very own Forbidden Fruit, you must first heed warning to the sign posted on the front door that reads: "If human sexuality offends you, do not enter!"

University of Texas alumna, Lynn Raridon, has owned and operated this unique, Austin sex shop for 12 years. After assuming responsibility for the store from its original founder, Mark Garfinkel in 1981, Raridon has managed to build the store's popularity and provide the sexually satisfying niche that Austin needs.

Catering to customers of all varieties, Raridon considers her store a community

resource where she and other "sexperts" offer friendly advice and encourage intimate communication.

"Sexuality is a universal quality," Raridon said. "Our goal is to make people not feel stigmatized by sexuality. Adults of any, gender, orientation and background are welcome here."

As Valentine's Day approaches each year, Forbidden Fruit's popularity explodes as couples and singles alike burst through the doors at 11 a.m. and keep the place bustling until closing time. With merchandise ranging from items like whips, collars and lingerie, to best-selling toys of all shapes and sizes,

to specialized cakes, Forbidden Fruit accommodates all requests.

"Valentine's is our super busy season," Raridon said. "But for us here, everyday is Valentine's Day."

The store extends its services by inviting guests to take their experience to another level with workshops designed to explore bondage, erotic dance and oral sex.

Forbidden Fruit will participate in the upcoming Pleasurefest on Friday at Ace's Lounge downtown. Representatives from the store will answer questions, offer advice and discussing their merchandise.

Raridon has considered

expanding her store but decided against it because the increase in size would take away from the personal experience that Forbidden Fruit promises.

"At one point in time I wanted it to be the like Dillard's or Sears, but found we work better as a boutique," Raridon said. "The store can already be overwhelming, and it's better one-on-one."

Raridon's work doesn't come without its challenges, though. She was forced to answer to a grand jury in 1989 after her store got busted for selling inappropriate products under Texas' Obscene Device law, which prohibits the sale and promotion of "arti-

what: FORBIDDEN FRUIT  
where: 512 NECHES ST.  
108 E. NORTH LOOP

ficial human genital organs." As a result, Raridon could only promote her products as educational items. But as of 2008 when the statute was finally overturned, Texas store owners are able to sell dildos without fear of prosecution, items Raridon considers to be healthy additions to sex.

Despite its controversy, Raridon finds her work rewarding and pledges to keep Austin sexually vibrant.

"I love everything I do," she said. "I couldn't imagine doing anything else."